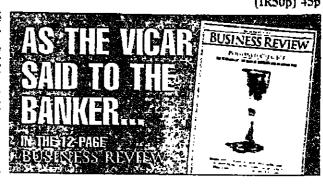
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EAWARD-WINNING NEWSPAPER

# THE INDEPENDENT



# Nato pours in new firepower

BY MARCUS TANNER AND MARY DEJEVSKY in Washington

BRITAIN AND the United States announced a huge escalation of the war against the Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosevic yesterday, as the two allies said they were sending "substantial reinforcements" to back Nato's action against Serbia.

The Prime Minister said a second Armoured Battle Group would be sent to support military personnel already in Greece and Macedonia, swelling their number by about 1,800 to 6,300.

They are being sent so that the UK can be in a position to

## INSIDE

- Mending fences with Russia
- Accidental victims of Nato bombs
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- A diplomatic settlement Review, page 4

play our proper role in the international effort, to ensure the refugees are able to return to Kosovo in safety," he said.

"The conflict we now face in Kosovo is a test of our comsure that the 21st century does not begin with a continuing reminder in Europe of the worst aspects of the century now drawing to a close."

The first units will sail today from Emden in north Germany to Thessaloniki in Greece, with the "heavy metal" armoured vehicles leaving on Friday. The troops will fly out to join their equipment when it arrives in



Madeleine Albright, US Secretary of State, and Igor Ivanov, Russia's Foreign Minister, after yesterday's 'useful and timely' meeting in Oslo 'Important progress', page 2 AP

preparing to announce greatly increased military involvement in the Balkan conflict.

Washington said it was planning to double the number of its warplanes in the region and was even broaching the call-up

power. Pentagon sources said proving the dispatch of another 300 planes, bringing its total

urgent request from the Nato 800, about 80 per cent of the Supreme Commander, Gener- total. The Pentagon said it al Wesley Clark, for more air- would ask Congress to authorise up to \$4bn in emergency the US was on the verge of ap-funds to pay for the military op-

eration in Kosovo. The aircraft would include F-15s and F-16s, more beavy

support aircraft, including the EA-6 Prowler, which can jam enemy radar.

More refuelling tankers were also on the list. The Pentagon said: "The goal is to increase Nato's ability to attack

bombers. and air-defence Yugoslav army and security risking Nato troops in combat forces in Kosovo.

The massive increase in US and British firepower presages round-the-clock bombing raids by Nato, in an all-out attempt

on the ground.

In meetings with Congressmen yesterday, the US President, Bill Clinton, was said still to be resisting calls for the deployment of combat troops on the ground in Kosovo.

The escalation of the allied war effort is intended to counter Serbia's continuing systematic deportation of Kosovo's remaining Albanian population.

Yesterday, days after the now forgotten "ceasefire" proclaimed by Belgrade, about 4,000 ethnic Albanians, almost all travelling in tractors and trailers, crossed into porthern. Albania after being violently forced from their homes by the Serb police.

After crossing the frontier between midnight and dawn yesterday they were directed to fields on the edge of the northern border town of Kukes. Looking confused and dishevelled, they had reportedly been living in the mountains of Kosovo and some had apparently not eaten proper food for almost two weeks.

Some of the refugees said they had witnessed the shooting of a young refugee woman who had resisted being singled out from the rest of her family by the Serbs and taken away for what she feared would be rape.

The Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, said in London that he believed Albanian refugee women were being forced to endure "systematic rape" at a Serb army camp in Djakovica, near the Albanian border after refugees arriving in Albania told of sex attacks by

Mr Cook said the news of the camp had emerged from refugees who had made it across the border. "A number of aid workers have heard the same story from a number of women," he said.

Comparing the Kosovo refugees' experience with the suffering of minorities at the hands of the Nazis in the Second World War, he said: "Nato was born in the aftermath of the defeat of fascism and genocide in Europe. Nato will not now allow this century to end with a triumph of fascism and

# Serbs enter Albania and burn village

SERB FORCES pushed into northern Albania yesterday, engaging the country's troops in a firefight and seizing a border village, where they torched homes before withdrawing. The incursion raised immediate fears that the conflict is in danger of spreading.

"We have seen houses burning, we have seen the flames, said Pier Gonggripi, head of the OSCE monitoring office in Bajram Curri, the largest town in



EMMA DALY IN TROPOJE, ALBANIA

launched their assault. Since it is only 12km from the border, the monitors standing on the roof of their hotel watched Ka-

menica burning until low road under the gaze of a tele-clouds obscured the view. By vision camera. "The situation mid-afternoon, a few Albanian soldiers hung around at a crossroads perhaps 7km shy of settlement perched in a clearing under a ridgeline. It was barely visible, thanks to the persistent drizzle and clouds.

"It is too dangerous to go any further," said Captain Qamil Katuroshi, as two Kosovo rebels trotted up on a pair of ponies, then cantered off up the

was terrible. Now it's quieter." Mr Gonggripi and his monitors had a running commentary of Kamenica, gazing at the tiny the incident, since they were listening in to the Albanian border guards' radio frequency.

"Shortly before 1 o'clock there was some shelling with mortars of Kamenica - that was nothing new because it has been happening for the last three days," Mr Gonggripj explained. "Then at about 1.10 we

Yugoslav light infantry had crossed the border and were advancing on the border police post. They were already firing their weapons. The border police chief ordered them to open fire against the intruders.

The chief's actual words were: "Be a man, we will support you." Then, he warned his men against getting surrounded and advised them to withdraw:

"At 13.20 ... we heard on the

heard ... them saving that the radio that the Yugoslav sol diers - there were about 50 of them - had reached the house where our sub-office used to be and then one minute later that they had reached the Kamenica border post." Mr Gonggripj

> Within 10 minutes came the news that the Yugoslav forces were retreating from the village and that there were no Albanian casualties. The Albanian Army fired artillery at the **TURN TO PAGE 3**

#### No Gimmicks, NATIONAL RATES 5 No Games, AUSTRIA 100 CHINA 35D Just simple HONG KONG 12D savings INDIA 48D ISRAEL 150 JAPAN 160 phone bill. MALAYSIA 201 MAURITIUS 40 p NZ/ 02 13p Pay monthly by Direct Debit or Pre-Pay wanted to reiterate the apology RUSSIA 300 offered to the patients in 1997 "and reassure them that the No need to change your. SINGAPORE | O phone or phone number SOUTH AFRICA 31 THAILAND 40°C What would you expect from **TAE 38**0 the fastest growing telecoms carrier in the world? USA / Communications Week International

#### Breast cancer error may have killed 11 FAILURES IN an NHS breast By JEREMY LAURANCE Dobson, the Secretary of State 1997. The Royal Devon and ecutive of the trust, said she



Dobson: Call for report

screening unit may have cost the lives of up to 11 women and put a further 74 at risk, an inquiry reported yesterday.

The poor standard of care provided by the East Devon breast screening service led to cancers being missed in 24 women and the diagnosis delayed in a further 61, of whom 11 have already died.

An independent disciplinary inquiry set up by the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Trust found Dr John Brennan, the

**Health Editor** 

the unit based at the hospital, guilty yesterday of personal and professional misconduct and professional incompetence. He has been reported to the General Medical Council.

Dr Brennan, who had been suspended on full pay since 1997, resigned last week after receiving his copy of the report. In a statement he said he did not agree with its findings. The scandal first came to

from Sir Kenneth Calman. Chief Medical Officer at the time. This found 229 women out of 1,920 had been misdiagnosed. The Royal Devon and Exeter

Trust set up its own disciplinary inquiry in June 1997 into the section of the East Devon Service that was run at the hospital by Dr Brennan. Professor Robin Wilson and a team of 15 radiologists reviewed the cases of 2,125 women who had been recalled for further checks consultant radiologist who ran light in 1997, prompting Frank between April 1995 and June

for Health, to order a report Exeter Trust said vesterday it was now able for the first time to confirm the number of women whose cancers had sis had been delayed.

A total of 24 women received a new diagnosis of cancer after the review, and all were receiving appropriate care and treatment. A further 61, with cancer diagnosed between 1991 and 1997, were identified as having had a delayed diagnosis; 11 Angela Pedder, the chief ex-

been missed or whose diagno- have been learnt". An audit last year had shown that the unit was now working well. "It is important that women have confidence in the (service) and are reassured by the action we have taken," she said. An Exeter solicitor. Chris Over, said he was co-ordinating

the claims of about 50 patients of these women have since died. arising out of the failure of the screening service.

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NHS for 21st century Nurses to replace GPs as 'gatekeepers' to care

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Jockey accused Court blow to Clinton The US President fights a contempt ruling Foreign P14

Graham Bradley has been charged with conspiring to cheat Sport P26 GN 13-14. BUSINESS 19-19. SPORT 20-26. DRYPTIC CROSSWORD 26. WEATHER 2

Royal Bank of Scotland

may renew its offer

Business P15

Barclays merger talks The inspector called How Chris Woodhead took a tumble in the blackboard jungle

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PRIMUS

GLOBAL network GLOBAL savings GLOBAL sense

"We hid in woods but my husband's parents stayed behind. We came back and found them killed"

Refugee in Macedonia

"The last thing we need is for the conflict to spread to neighbouring countries"

**UN** secretary-general

"These accusations are false. Yugoslav troops did not enter Albania" Kofi Annan,

Nebojsa Vujovic, Yugoslav spokesman

"The army throw people out and use their houses as hiding places during the [Nato] attacks" Skender Haziri, refugee

air power... [but] by a 17year-old with a bayonet"

King Leka, pretender to Albanian throne

"You can't hold ground by

"Arm the Kosovars? But do we really want another Afghanistan?"

Pat Buchanan, US presidential candidate

BRIEFING

■ The Netherlands will send 360 troops to

part in Nato's refugee relief effort Operation Allied Harbour, 220 marines and 140 army personnel, as well as: freight and rough terrain vehicles, will be sent.

British soldiers in the last 24 hours distributed

DAY 21

# Russians and US 'narrow differences'

RUSSIA BY PHIL REEVES IN MOSCOW

THE WEST yesterday moved decisively to mend fences with an unhappy Russia but made little concrete progress on the

more urgent question of bringing an end to the three-week Yu-A heavily billed meeting between Madeleine Albright, US Secretary of State, and her Russian counterpart, Igor Ivanov, in Oslo yielded only a

vague mutual pledge to go on

talking in search for a solution to the crisis. These were the first face-toface talks between the two since the start of the conflict and - importantly - they clearly helped patch up some of the rawer grievances between Moscow and Washington, whose relations have sharply

deteriorated. But two critical sticking points rose to the fore over the conflict itself: the composition of an international peacekeeping force to be deployed in

Kosovo to protect returning refugees; and the issue of when Nato's bombing campaign should stop. Moscow - and Slobodan Milosevic - wants the onslaught to end at once, paving the path for a political settlement. Nato is only willing to do so once the Yugoslav president ends ethnic cleansing. and moves to pull all his forces out of Kosovo.

It was never going to be an easy encounter, given Russia's injured feelings and western annovance at some of the wilder statements emanating from the Kremlin. Yet, after a threehour meeting, both sides sought to put a cheerful spin on

The talks were "very useful and timely", said Mr Ivanov. was "important progress" and a "narrowing of differences", said Ms Albright.

The US Secretary of State went one step further by claiming an agreement in principle

with Russia on issues which were, in fact, never particularly contested by Moscow. These included the bulk of the alliance's latest demands: the immediate, verifiable, end to repression in Kosovo; the withdrawal of Milosevic's forces from Kosovo; the unconditional and safe return of refugees; and allowing international humanitarian or-

throughout Yugoslavia. But there was no sign of movement on the peacekeeping issue, the composition of the forces to be sent in to protect returning ethnic Albanians after the violence ends.

"Our sense is that it has to have a Nato core, with other countries providing other aspects, or working in co-ordination with it," said Ms Albright.

Russia sees this as a formula for allowing Moscow only a token force, while Nato's troops retain control. It also believes

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An ethnic Albanian family pass a checkpoint in their car at the Macedonia-Yugoslavia border yesterday

keepers must be acceptable to Mr Milosevic - who adamantly opposes Nato forces in

Even if the Olso talks had made headway, it is a long way from finding a formula acceptable to the Serb leader. But neither party emerged from yesterday's encounter empty-

YESTERDAY

handed. Russia will have taken Britain have been emphasing the meeting as acknowledgment that they are a central player in resolving the Kosovo crisis - perhaps, the key.

The bellicose utterances emanating from Moscow over the last few days - mostly the result of domestic political pressure-appear to have done little flourish the Oslo talks as evidamage. Both the US and

the value of Russia's "constructive role". At the same time, Moscow's refusal to concede much ground yesterday to Ms Albright will have won the applause of Serbs and ordi-

The US and Nato can now dence that they are not, as

were fruitfully discussed. Ms Albright may also feel she has helped to quieten the barrage of Russian criticism. It es to himself yesterday.

many allege, perilously sidelin-ing Russia, and doing lasting damage to their relations with Moscow, an unstable nuclear power. Both sides in yesterday's talks emphasised that bilateral issues, unrelated to Kosovo, ister kept his Cold War speech-

2600 meals, 1600 chicken pieces. 1 pallet apples, 4,500 loaves, 6 pallets of water. The British army's catering support is being wound down and will end on Friday as aid agencies take over. Bosnia has established a crisis centre to deal with refugees pouring into the country. ■ 68 lorries carrying 300 tons of Russian and Belarus relief aid for Serbia crossed the border from Hungary to Yugoslavia. ■ Nato has asked for more than 300 additional US aircraft to use against Yugoslavia.

Ivanov in no doubt about the dim view taken by Nato of some of the wilder rhetoric coming from Moscow - for example, Mr Yeltsin's warning last week that a Third World War could erupt if the West pushes Russia too far. The Russian Foreign Min-

# BRITAIN TODAY Noon today

General situation: England and Wales will have a few surmy spells but there will be heavy showers, most frequent this afternoon, many of them of hall, sleet and possibly snow. The best chance of diner and brighter weather will be on south-western coasts, Gales in north-west Scotland will make it feel especially cold with frequent wintry showers. The rest of Scotland will also be windy with showers or rain. Some sheltered southern areas will see some surmy spells

London, SE & Cent S England, E Anglia: Cold but dry and bright this mornithen prolonged heavy showers moving in, some thundery with half or sleet. A moderate west to north-west wind. Max temp 6-8C (43-46F). Channel Is, SW England, S Wales: Sunny spells but a few showers too, the odd one heavy and wintry. A freshering north-west wind. Max temp 5-8C (41-46F). Midlands, N Wales, NW England, Lake Dist, Isle of Man: Remaining cold with heavy showers breaking out, many of holi, sleet or snow with the risk of thunder, A freshening north-west wind, Max temp 5-8C (41-46F).

E England, Cent N & NE England: Early sunshine but cold with showers so breaking out. A fresh west to north-westerly wind Max temp 5-8C (41-46F). NW & SIM Scotland, Glasgom, W Isles: Cold and windy with sunny spells and frequent heavy, writing showers. A strong north-west wind; gales in north, Max temp 4-7C (139-45F).

NE & SE Scotland, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, N Isles: Odd sunny breaks in the south but mostly cloudy with showers or longer periods of rain. A fresh north to north-west wand. Max temp 5-8C (41-46F) M Ireland: Early sunny spells disappearing as heavy and at times wintry showers break out. A freshening north-west wind. Max temp 5-80 (41-46F).

OUTLOOK

The next few days will remain cold and unsettled with only limited sunny spells an further sharp showers for most places, the showers falling as sleet or snow over the hills with half possible elsewhere. However, the wind should gradually ease.

TRJ
London: A12 Green Man Roundabout,
Leylonstone. Major roadworks on new
M11 link road. Until 31st December.
Bristol: M5 J18-19. Major Roadworks on
Avormouth Bridge. Until 23kd June 2001.
Warwickshire: W42 Between J10 Tarmworth
services and J9 Sutton Colfield. Roadworks
and contratiow. Until 23rd April.
South Yorkshire: M1 Between J34 Tinsky
Viaduct (A6109) 8 J34 Tinsky Viaduct
(A6178). Sheffisci Carriageway is reduced
to two lanes southbound. Until 21st

Cheltenham. Closed due to roadworks inbound. Diversions in place. Until 1st June. Co. Antrim: A1 Kingsway. Dummurray. Roadworks, various lane restrictions. Until Bypass (A50) and Shardow Road round-about. Bast of Alvaston. Contration for work on new A50. Until 15th October.

AA Roadwatch: Call 0336 401777 for the latest local and national traffic news. Source The Automobile Association, Calls

## **EXTREMES** LIGHTING UP

st: Deal 6.0 hrs

#### RAIN OR SHINE...

TOURISTS HAVE been told to cancel trips to the Thai holiday islands of Similan and Surin

after a monsoon storm sank a ferry heading for the resorts. Forty passengers, mostly tourists, had to be rescued by a passing ferry after their boat, bound for Similan from the mainland of southern Thailand, ran into heavy seas and driving rain. Thai authorities have asked travellers to avoid the very popular area until the monsoon storms subside

# THE WORLD EUROPE NOON TODAY

High I will sink south and merge with High G. Complex Low M will drift north-westwards while Low N edges south.

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

# **Hopes Annan** will pave way to a solution

DIPLOMACY

EUROPE WILL today seek to ternational military presence in put the United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan, at the centre of Western efforts to end the crisis in Kosovo, and discuss timing of a possible UN peace mission to Belgrade. The German presidency of the EU has invited Mr Annan to a meeting of its 15 heads of government in Brussels, in a bid to consolidate diplomatic efforts to pave the way for a solution.

Diplomats cautioned yesterday against expectations of an early breakthrough, and argued that a peace mission to Beigrade from Mr Annan now might be premature, running the risk of a rebuff. However Mr Annan has made clear his willingness to talk to Slobodan Milosevic, and several governments, including the Britain, believe he is the West's ideal interlocutor with Belgrade when the time for nego-

tiation is right. Germany points out that the position laid down by Mr Annan on the Kosovo crisis last week is close to that of EU and Nato governments. In particular the pre-conditions laid down by Mr Annan for a settlement, are close to the five conditions agreed by Nato and endorsed by Europe's foreign ministers. These state that Mr Milosevic should cease military actions, withdraw military, paramilitary and police forces from Kosovo, agree to an in-

Kosovo, allow the return of refugees and undertake to work on the basis of the Ram-

bouillet accord. But the UN has two other important roles to play. First it constitutes a forum for maintaining contacts with Moscow. which is widely seen as crucial to any eventual settlement of the crisis. Second a UN resolution to cover the international force which eventually enters Kosovo is seen as desirable by a number of Euro-

pean countries. The draft communique like ly to be agreed at today's summit will repeat the existing position, agreed by Nato foreign ministers on Monday, but one diplomat argued that Mr Annan's presence may give the meeting "another dimen-

Although the shape of a settiement could be emerging, that the West's preconditions are still being rejected by Mr Milosevic, who shows little sign of compromise. Meanwhile the Yugoslav president, backed by Russia, still insists that the bombing must cease before

talks can resume. Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancellor, who will preside at the meeting today. hopes that, at least the Brussels summit will align all the Western diplomatic efforts to



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BRIEFING The Netherland: send 360 troops to Albania this week to be Part in Nato's refuse of the Alliest Adress of Harbour 220 marines and 140 arms treight and rough things nepicies will be sell British soldiers in the iast 26 hours distribute

2600 meals, 1600 chicken pieces, 1 pale apples, 4 500 loage, 6 that sets of Mater The British armys category appoint to be comed down and walle. on Friday as aid agence ort Car Bosaria has established & Trisis centre to deal with refugees pouring one the country. ■ 66 :orries carrying 36 cons of Russian and Seiarus relief aid for Serola crossed the book from Hungary to <sup>ಸ</sup>ಲಕ್ಷರಿಪಡಿಸುತ್ತ Nato has asked for nore than 300 additor. US autoraft to use again 12279.Bula

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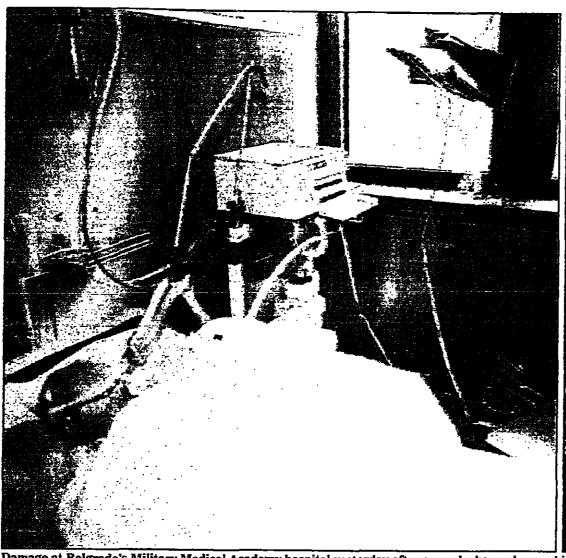
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# WAR IN THE BALKANS





Damage at Belgrade's Military Medical Academy hospital yesterday after a nearby barracks was bit. Left: An intensive care unit with smashed windows. Right: Debris in the waiting room AP. EPA

# 'Collateral damage' lies dying in a shattered Belgrade hospital

WHEN NATO attacked the Belgrade suburb of Banjica yesterday, its third bomb blasted shards of glass into Dragana Kristic's neck. The target had been a bar-

racks 50 metres away. So that obscene cliché "collateral damage" comes to mind – but for one thing. Dragana was lying in a hospital bed when she was wounded, recovering from a cancer operation that surgeons had performed only a few hours earlier. They had taken a fourand-a-half kilogram tumour from her stomach.

With her neck and shoulder swaddled in bandages, she looked up at us yesterday from her bed, a pretty dark-haired man of 23 who was as angry as she was in pain. "I don't know which hurts more - my stomach, my shoulder or my heart." she told us. "It was the third bomb that broke the window

and did this to me." She was not the only victim. Radisav Milosavljevic – already suffering a serious heart complaint - lay curled up like a giant foetus, bandages covering half can save him." his head and face, his heart monitor racing on a small

ROBERT FISK IN BELGRADE

screen to the left of his bed. The bombs had vibrated through the entire Military Medical Academy, shaking the bed of 14-year-old Ivan Labovic, critically wounded during a Nato bomb attack on Pristina on 30 March and now dying - heavily drugged but still conscious - in the intensive care unit. "He was wounded near his home - in the back, the abdomen, stomach, liver and spleen," Dr Nenad On a lower floor, 74-year-old Markovic said. "He has had major surgery four times already but the wall of his stomach is missing. I don't think we

> Six other patients lay beside Ivan, one of them a soldier, the

rest civilians, all dying like the 14-year old, all in a coma, all on respirators. Two of them were brain-dead - most were hit by falling masonry during air raids and a young doctor was using a tube to suck saliva from the throat of a young man gravely wounded in the Nato bombing of Aleksinac 11 days ago. "He will die - I'm afraid they are all going to die," Dr Markovic said. He walked over to where Ivan lay, scarred legs apart, under a

"Which football team to do you support?" he asked the dying boy. "Partizans?" There was no movement from the "Red Star?" And Ivan moved his eyes towards the doctor and then lowered them for a second. "You see?" Dr Markovic said loudly, turning to us with a smile. "He supports" and put it in my hand. It was Red Star." But Red Star is sure to lose this supporter. "Their wounds are too terrible," the doctor said. "What can we

and stomach.

The medical staff have hung a large red cross from the roof red cross flag to the side of the wintry piles around the hospi-

vast 18-year-old building. Half tal grounds with their blosits 1,000 patients are civilians non-military personnel can buy their way into the hospital's care with medical insurance and the other half soldiers and members of army families.

But the medical centre is located in a suburb teeming with barrack buildings, parade grounds and army compounds. Most of them are deserted and Nato was evidently not aiming at the hospital. But it knew the risk it was taking when it mountain of sheets, 12 tubes winding into his nose, throat bombed the army garages behind the hospital's teaching centre. And it wounded Dragana Kristic.

"The bombs were only 50 metres away; was that worth the risk to this hospital?" Dr Markovic asked. A colleague. Dr Radoslav Svicevic, walked in from the broken glass door with a small piece of metal part of the fuse cap of a bomb, its jagged edges clinging to my fingers. "I just found this outside the door," he said.

Hundreds of windows lay in pieces around the hospital, millions of glass splinters, which of their hospital and a smaller staff were sweeping into silver,

soms and magnolia trees.

Dr Markovic's question was a moral one. True, this hospital is a military institution with General Aco Jovicic as its head. True, there are soldiers as well as civilians among the patients. But wounded soldiers in field hospitals are supposed to be safe from attack under the rules of war, as well as civilians. What if the Nato bombs had deviated just a few metres, as they had at Aleksinac where 24 people are known to have been killed? Did Dragana Kristic and Radisav Milosavljevic have to be lacerated by glass in an attempt to destroy a row of empty barrack buildings?

ence for chetoric rather than argument - and an ability to destroy any arguments with exaggeration on an epic scale -General Jovicic loudly denounced the damage to his hospital as a "war crime".

Yugoslavia, he told us, was fighting in "a dance against Satan" and "only the crimes of Ghengis Khan" could compare to the Nato attacks on Serbia. The Americans were "psychopaths realising their frustrations in death and destruc- trains - to blow up a bridge. So tion all over the world". We wanted him to stop, to let facts speak for themselves, to end this genuinely angry but non-

sensical tirade. Walking the wards of the Belgrade Military Medical Academy, I remembered another hospital I walked through seven years ago, in Sarajevo, deliberately shelled for months by Bosnian Serb forces. And I thought of those thousands of Kosovo Albanians, dispossessed, in despair, who desperately need the care and compassion that these Serb doctors demonstrate each day in this Belgrade hospital, But victims cannot be balanced

The Nato spokesman Jamie Shea, says the alliance goes to "extraordinary lengths" to avoid civilian casualties. But this is totally untrue. On Monday, Nato planes destroyed a passenger train in south-eastern Serbia while bombing a bridge that it called "a military supply line". In other words, it was prepared to attack a railway track in mid-morning - in full knowledge that the railway much for Mr Shea's "extraordinary lengths". And the same applied in

Banjica yesterday. Nato bombed a barracks and wounded hospital patients. By a terrible irony, we found Mira Drijaca waiting outside the medical centre to visit her wounded brother Mica. Mira is a paediatric doctor, Mica is a surgeon. And he was wounded while tending to patients at a clinic more than a week ago in another Nato bombing attack, this time on a nearby military airport outside Kraljevo. He was brought to Belgrade with his legs covered in burns.

Mira carried a plastic bag er eggs for her brother. "He did nothing wrong to the pilot of the plane that wounded him." she said. "I don't think the pilot knows why he bombed. He was ordered to do it." As for her brother: "I tell him to endure."

In her bed, Dragana Kristic is less forgiving in her pain. "If I met the pilot that did this," she said, touching the bandages at her neck, "I could only wish for his child to have carried scheduled passenger a day like I had."

# Reprisal theory over attack

FROM FRONT PAGE

enemy forces - "the first time of any response from the Albanian side", according to Mr Gonggripj. He supports the Albanian line that the Kosovo Liberation Army is not active in Kamenica – although Bajram Curri and the border area is known to be dotted with KLA training camps and smugglers routes used to run guns into Kosova.

Observers speculate that the assault on Kamenica might have come in reprisal for KLA attacks elsewhere – Capt Katuroshi, among others, claimed the KLA had won control of the Koshara border post, attacking the Serbs from inside Kosovo. The OSCE has heard rumours to this effect, but has no confirmation of the inci-

Monitors have reported eight KLA dead and eight wounded from fighting in Kosovo, including four soldiers who crossed into a minefield. Mr Gonggripj had also heard rumours that the soldiers caught in the minefield had fought for three days without food, water or rest and that rumour, he said, is "a bit more logical" than the Koshara story. The Kamenica assault will

have the twin effect of scaring people away from the borderregion, which will suit the Serbs, who want free rein to pursue the KLA.

Frightened civilians from Tropoje and another village, Vichidol, walked along the muddy track towards Bajram Curri, herding sheep, goats and cattle too valuable to be left behind in case of another Serbian attack. Two donkeys overloaded with bundles of possessions plodded through the rain while their owner wandered behind, sheltering under a large umbrella.

In Tropoje itself, where three people have been killed and 16 wounded by Serb shells in the past few days, Ziz Shabani, 61, and other villagers are living underground in an L-shaped bunker perhaps 2m wide and 2m high. "We are hiding here because the Serbs are shelling our village - we are afraid," she beds covered in grey blankets which now furnish the shelter, and which they moved into shortly after the first Nato air strikes drew retaliatory Serb

"It's impossible to live here but we must. We are here 24 hours a day, we only go out to eat or get food and water for our personal needs," added Rusa Mula. 50, explaining that they are too frightened to go home and cook.

# Pilot bombed train twice, says Nato

it yesterday as an "uncanny ac- once, the pilot's-eye-view video, tion of the circumstances in which an allied warplane to illustrate the snap judgebombed a Serb train near Leskovac twice on Monday, killing at least nine people. Wesley Clark, Nato's

Supreme Allied Commander for Europe, gave a graphic account of the incident revealing that, having hit the train unintentionally once, the pilot targeted a second bomb on the ment". other end of the bridge, only to wreak more damage on the

The description of the event, which Nato acknowledged was its most unfortunate episode so trepare that at least the fig. far of "collateral damage", illustrates how split-second judgements and luck decide life and death in modern

Showing cockpit film of the incident, General Clark described the incident at a packed

NATO'S TOP general described headquarters in Brussels. For now a familiar feature of televised war coverage, was used ments that air crews have to take, rather than their mechanical success in destroying military targets.

General Clark described how, as the pilot "stared intently at the aim point, all of a sudden - with less than a second to go - he caught a flash of move-

That proved to be the train, identifiable on the film, moving very swiftly from left to right of the pilot's vision. General Clark said the pilot "couldn't dump the bomb", partly because it was a "remotely directed attack" at that point outside his command

the pilot realised what had happened, he decided to attack the other end of the bridge, although much of the area was, press conference at Nato's by now, concealed by smoke. "At

# TRAIN ATTACK AFTERMATH

BY STEPHEN CASTLE in Brussels



Video from the nose of a Nato missile showing the train on the bridge moments before the weapon struck

More surprisingly, although ny accident, the train had shunted forward from the initial impact."

Because of its movement

the last minute again," contin- towards the other end of the ued the general, "in an uncan- bridge, the second strike caused more damage. When iournalists arrived at the scene three hours after the attack.

three railway carriages had

been incinerated and were still hot and smoking.

With a typically military degree of understatement, General Clark added: "It was certainly an unfortunate incident which we and he and the crew and all of us regret." He added: "It was one of the regrettable things that happen in a campaign like this. We are all very sorry for it."

Mindful, perhaps, of the propaganda aid that the bridge attack has given to the Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic, yesterday's demonstration at Nato seemed designed to show that the alliance was not holding back any information about the attack. However, it still left unanswered the question of why the bridge was attacked for a second time once the train's presence was known

Later, a senior air commander said that the pilot would have been under orders to attack the bridge twice, and said

other distractions in the cockpit might have drawn the pilot's eye from his screen.

The incident has caused particular concern at Nato because, throughout its threeweek air campaign, military chiefs have stressed the lengths to which they have gone to shield civilians from their war with Mr Milosevic. That determination was repeated yesterday, General Clark promising that Nato was "going to do everything we can to continue to work the air campaign in an effective and systematic manner that avoids needless casualties and avoids collateral damage".

As for the identity of the pilot whose judgement will continue to be debated. Nato declined to reveal either his nationality or the type of the aircraft involved. But General Clark defended his decision to return for a second attack on the bridge. "He was trying to do his job and take the bridge down," he said.



**ENDSLEIGH** FOR CHEAPER MOTOR INSURANCE.



# £400,000 donated to Independent's appeal



READERS OF The Independent have raised nearly £400,000 to help the refugees from Kosovo. The appeal launched two weeks ago - is part of an effort co-ordinated by the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) to help

those affected by the war. That wider appeal has now topped £12m. "Its phenomenal," said a spokesman for the DEC. With more money coming in all the time, Muslim

cated £610,000 towards the relief effort, also announced it has increased its pledge to £1m. The charity is now also considering chartering a plane next week to take relief supplies to refugees in Albania.

The national joint appeal has been organised on behalf of 15 charities, which include the British Red Cross, Christian Aid. Cafod. Care International IIK. Children's Aid Direct, Concern Worldwide. Help the Aged, Merlin, Oxfam,

Save the Children, Tearfund and World Vision The DEC spokesman con-

tinued: "Staff are working flat out to sort postal donations. which are just getting bigger and bigger. We just hope donations keep on coming in." More than 500,000 Kosovo

Albanians have either fled or been forced from their homes by Serb ethnic cleansing of the province. Since the exodus began two weeks ago, civilians have been flooding into Alba-

nia, Macedonia and the Yugoslav province of Montenegro. More than 300,000 refugees have entered Albania alone.

The money raised by The Independent will be used to buy food, shelter, warm clothes and sanitation for the displaced people.

Tents, blankets and medical supplies are also being sent to the region. The weather is still wintry in the Balkans, and most of the refugees have only the clothes on their backs.

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CALEBAND STEERING W

# Database of hope helps the missing

REFUGEES

BY RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

OPPOSITE THE lunchtime food queue, behind the Israelirun field hospital in the refugee camp at Brazda, is a big green tent for what the aid workers in Macedonia call the "special cases". Inside the hustle and bustle of camp life recedes. There is no chatter, no noisy babies or teenagers. Instead, there are elderly people, refugees from Kosovo so feeble or sick that it is a wonder they made it through at all.

They lie here all day, barely moving, wrapped in shapeless clothes and shawls, talking in quiet voices. One old couple do not even have names. Mute or mentally disabled, they lie here all day staring into space. Among them is a 65-year-old man named Muhamed Saliha. He is one of the most active. A fortnight ago, he had a lung operation; immediately afterwards, the Serbs deported him from Kosovo with 30 members of his extended family.

At the border, he was separated from them all, apart from his 99-year-old mother. She lies beside him. He lost his wife; his missing sons and daughters had young children. "We suffer more from thinking of our families than from our sickness," he says, clutching a battered Xray print of his darkened lungs. This X-ray is what makes him a "special case".

But help, perhaps, is at



A noticeboard helping refugees find their missing families at Staknovic camp, in Skopja, Macedonia

tion of tents that is the camp's nerve centre. Here the British army, which built Brazda, are handing over its running to civilian agencies. The job of registering the residents has been taken in hand by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Now the focus is shifting to a tent bearing the crest of International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and known as the Tracing Centre. If there is anything that can be done for Mr Saliha, it is here

that it will be begin. More than half a million Kosovo Albanians have been

**FIRST FOR NEW TECHNOLOGY** 

past three weeks and for most, many of them refugees, shake the physical dangers of hung- their heads when asked how er, exposure and violence are past. But the chaos of the they amount to hundreds, refugee exodus has created a different kind of suffering far more difficult to alleviate - the anguish of separated families.

No one knows how many individuals have been affected. but the task is enormous. The ICRC operation is still in its early stages and for now it is documenting only separated children and parents, plus the elderly, the sick, pregnant women and others unable to look after themselves. The Red

many inquiries they receive -The ICRC has been

attempting to reunite people divided by conflict ever since tury and the basic task has changed little in the past 80 years. In a library in southern Germany are seven million cards bearing the names of prisoners of war and displaced civilians from the First World War: the Second World War generated 20 million more. In

Red Cross' techniques for bringing people together have been far outstripped by the development of the weaponry which drives them apart. But here that is changing - the refugee crisis in the Balkans is turning out to be the first humanitarian crisis in which high technology provides solu-

tions as well as suffering. In part, this is a result of its location - a developed European country with a literate, urban population. The symbol of this is the mobile phone, which is seen everywhere in the distressed areas - and not

"That's one of the unique things about this crisis." says the ICRC's tracing co-ordinator. Martin Merkelbach. "After a situation like Rwanda, it's extraordinary."

In its office in Skopie, Mr Merkelbach's division is roadtesting its newest piece of technology - an internal satellite communications system installed two years ago. It employs the same network used by the International Association of Travel Agents; with it, messages can be sent from one Red Cross branch to another instantaneously to

refugees. Having been gathered with pen and ink, information about lost children and parents can be collated and cross-referenced on computer.

Computer technicians are being flown in from Geneva; there is talk of transferring the pathetic lists of lost children which flap from walls and noticeboards in the camps to an Internet site. Mr Merkelbach talks of the day when volunteers will go out into camps with modems through which refugees will communicate with relatives via e-mail.

But for now, the process is

than a few dozen people have been reunited by the ICRC. Of the 130,000 lost children registered in Rwanda, fewer than half have found their parents. Even the file cards from 1918 are still open; in fact they are in active use. "Every day there are requests relating to the Second World War," says Mr Merkelbach. "The First World War ones are not so common

but we still get them." It is a peculiar feeling, par inspiring and part chilling, to stand in the Brazda camp and realise that 60 years from now the business of this place may

# FO stopped Sandline working for Kosovars

**MERCENARIES** By PAUL LASHMAR

INDEPENDENCE LEADERS in Kosovo – not the KLA – and would "bomb periodically, but Kosovo asked Sandline International the British mercenary firm, to help in their armed struggle against Serbian rule, but the Foreign Office warned off Sandline because of the United Nations arms em-

Sandline has been involved erations. They were at the centre of the "Arms to Sierra Leone" scandal which caused great embarrassment to the Foreign Office and the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook.

Lieutenant Colonel Tim Spicer, head of Sandline, says representatives of the Kosovar government approached them late last year for help to protect themselves from ethnic cleansing. "We were contacted by the representatives of the (selfproclaimed) government of not send in ground troops but be no match for Nato.

asked whether we would be able to in any way assist them with advice or military training (for a fee)," he said in a BBC interview. Col Spicer said it was not a question of Sandline providing mercenaries but in ving advice and training. "T think we would have been more

cleansing," he added. After the Kosovars approached Sandline, the Foreign Office hastily brought into force in February a statutory instrument banning British na- in spite of the Serbs ruthless tionals and companies from streak, Nato should realise they providing military training in the region.

Col Spicer, who was Sir Michael Rose's spokeman in Bosnia in the early Nineties, has also predicted that Nato will

provide (or at least allow) training and arms for the KLA to let it defend Kosovo".

In a statement yesterday on the Sandline website, he says: "I had firsthand experience of negotiations with the likes of Karadic and Mladic, who are essentially of the same mindset as in a number of controversial op- concerned with helping them Milosevic. They demonstrated protect themselves from ethnic a fanatical patriotic resolve, stubbornness, cunning and ruthlessness, together with a highly developed level of

brinkmanship. What should happen is that, are bullies - it is one thing to be defiant in the face of remote bombardment and defenceless civilians in Kosovo, but when confronted with effective ground troops their forces will



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# WAR IN THE BALKANS

# Albania helpless in face of aggressor

INVASION

BY STEVE BOGGAN in Tirana

DURING HIS tyrannical reign over Albania, the Maoist dictator Enver Hoxha built almost one million concrete piliboxes to defend his country and unify its downtrodden people against invasions that he knew would never happen. Like Slobodan Milosevic, he realised that there was nothing to compare with the threat of war to marshal a country's people behind its leader.

The crumbling bunkers still litter the countryside, pointing comically in all directions like pale mushrooms, which are a constant reminder of the futility of Hoxha's rule.

Finally, vesterday, someone did invade. Serbian infantry took the border post at Kamenica and torched two towns. And the pillboxes, used for decades as toilets and mangers, proved to be just as useless as Hoxha had always known they would be. Such helplessness in the

face of aggression is one of the reasons the Albanian government last week invited Nato to take over its sea and air ports. Even before the civil unrest of 1997 which brought down the government of Dr Sali Berisha, Albania's military was somewhat toothless. After, when military arsenals had been littered by angry civilians (and sold on to the Kosovo Liberation Army), it was positively moribund

According to the latest publicly available figures. Albania's rag-tag army boasts 859 battle tanks, 103 armoured personnel carriers and 823 artiliery pieces. The Navy has one submarine and 31 patrol boats, and the Air Force has 98 combat aircraft. What the figmuch of the hardware dates from the 1960s, is Chinese-built and would not look out of place in a military museum.

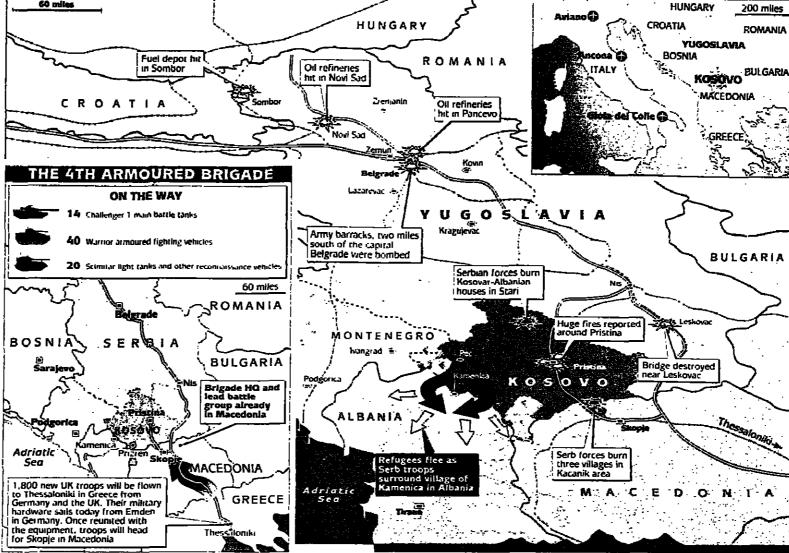
So when news of the incursion reached the people of Tirana, where in the past there would have been fear, there was only anger and indignation. After all. Albania is now becoming Nato's launch pad for any ground action against the Serbs in Kosovo.

"The Serbs are cowards they would never dare attack us now we are with Nato" said Tatjana Muka, 35, a shoe shop assistant. "I hate the Serbs and in the past, I would have been scared they would have invaded all the way. But not now."

Yesterday, evidence of Albania's status at Nato's new forward base was beginning to emerge at Durres, the country's main seaport, and at Tirana airport, where a military build-up is gathering pace in tandem with the aid effort. Until recently, Autum

Daniels from Seattle had no idea where Albania was, much less Kosovo. But here she was, standing in the airport mud, a tiny figure carrying an M60 sub-machine-gun almost as big as she was. "I'm here for the people," she said. "Tve seen the pictures of babies crying and families being forced out of their homes and I don't like it. Of course, we've all talked about more serious conflicts. but that's not why we're here right now." All around Airman Daniels, other American, French, Greek, Turkish and Dutch soldiers were busy doing their bit to feed 600,000 in

camps all over the region. But with the presence of "Operation Hawk" personnel



rival of Apache attack helicopters from America, one could not help feeling that a beach-head was being created for the arrival of less humanitarian equipment. Last Friday, Durres, west of Tirana, was a sleepy harbour for ferries to and from Italy. Yesterday, huge French troop carriers were there, disgorging hundreds of soldiers. Medecins San Frontieres, the medical charity, has been complaining for some time that the use of Nato troops at refugee camps, while Nato is bombing Yugoslavia, is compromising the camps' status as

neutral places of safety. At Tirana airport, the lines appeared more blurred than ever. Operating around the clock, its single airstrip had been taking up to 60 transporter planes a day. American C-17 Globemasters and C-130 Hercules from Ramstein in Germany accounted for twothirds of the flights, the rest being operated from other Nato Once on the ground, the aid

is distributed by a fleet of 30 helicopters, including US Navy Sea Stallions and Dutch and The effort and organisation involved is staggering. Many countries are participating, but this is mainly America's show. And other military equipment is arriving too.

Almost 500 US military personnel are already on the base. building Mash-style tents, tures being set in place smack

radar and communication systems. They have taken over air traffic control and logistics on the ground. US service personnel have worked unstintingly in cold, wet conditions, and they are rightly proud of their achievements. But the struc-

of permanence rather than a swift swoop into an improving situation. Nevertheless, they are delighting the Albanians, who believe their reward will be new roads, airports, communication systems, defence improvements and regional stature. We have blown it twice

wonderful for morale." As news spread of yesterday's incursions into Albanian, the Albanians were more sure than ever that their new partnership was a positive step forward. For Nato's part, it knows that if there were to be a ground war, here would be a good place to land troops.

before, allving ourselves with

Russia and then with China,"

said Major Vladimir Avdia, an

Albanian MiG-19 fighter pilot.

"But now it's Nato. We are

sharing our facilities now and

later we will be given help to im-

prove our infrastructure. It is

"We already have an advanced team conducting surveys for the arrival of the Apache helicopters" said Master Sergeant Michael Land. one of the USAF's spokesmen. "Certainly, in the event of an escalation in activity, this airfield would become a very important centre militarily."

It remains to be seen just how big the tiny, muddy airfield outside Tirana will grow over the next few months. In a few years, perhaps, it may even have its own bowling alley and a bar serving Budweiser and

#### Timetable: DAYS 20, 21

Monday 12 April 8pm: Air raid sirens sound in Belgrade, Nis, Kragujevac and Podgorica. 9pm: Yugoslav news agency Tanjug says third civilian has died in hospital after a Nato missile hit a car on the road between Pristina and Kosovo Polie earlier in the afternoon.

Tuesday 13 April 1.15-1.30am: Four big explosions heard in Pristina.

explosions shake eastern

2.30am: Three huge

Belgrade close to city centre. Tanjug says the military barracks Vasa Carapic in Belgrade's Banjica district were hit. 6.35am: Air raid alert in Belgrade ends. 8.45am: Nato planes hit a Yugoslav army barracks and fuel tanker trucks in Pristina. 9am: Madeleine Albright meets Russian Foreign Minister, Igor Ivanov, to encourage Russia back into the search for peace in

Kosovo. Midday: Italian news agency reports Serbian forces have crossed the Yugoslav-Albanian border and occupied the northern Albanian village of Padesh. 1pm: Australian Foreign

Minister, Alexander

Downer, says he has been informed by Yugoslav Foreign Ministry that Australian aid workers will be charged with spying. 3.30pm: Serb forces withdraw from Albanian territory after surrounding the northern village of Kamenica and exchanging fire with Albanian border guards for several hours. 3.30pm: Yugoslav Foreign Ministry denies allegations that Serb forces entered Albania. 3.40pm: Blair says Britain will send extra 1,800 troops to help the humanitarian effort. **5pm:** Nato says that Slobodan Milosevic now has 23 battalion-size units in Kosovo.

# Serb incursion is a sharp taste Extra troops could of how war could engulf region spearhead invasion

THE YUGOSLAV army's incursion into Albania yesterday offers an alarming, albeit brief, taste of how the Kosovo war could quickly engulf neigh- the Kosovo Liberation Army bouring countries — and bring (KLA) has enjoyed bases and Serb ground forces into the logistic support across the direct proximity of an everincreasing number of Nato troops. But it was neither surprising nor, given the way this war is developing, especially

outrageous. The deeper fear, that the raid could presage a wider Serb invasion of Albania, for the moment seems unfounded. After three weeks of aerial pounding, the Serb army almost certainly has neither the fuel ercise. To invade, moreover, country's wealth in half.
would bring its tanks and arBut these weapons, ide tillery out into the open, exposing it at last to attack by frustrated Nato pilots. But match for the artillery and arepisodes like that of yesterday mour of the Yugoslav army. So are almost certain to recur.

Ever since its armed insurgency first became a factor in in yesterday's operation, which the crisis some 14 months ago,

#### **ANALYSIS** BY RUPERT CORNWELL

rugged frontier of Northern Albania. Even a year ago, Serb forces were carrying out 'hot pursuit' cross-border raids to strike at these strongholds and disrupt supply lines.

For their part, the KLA was drawing on the rich source of light weapons constituted by stocks plundered when the central Albanian state selfdestructed amid the chaos following the colossal financial nor the supplies for such an ex-scandal of 1997, which cut the

But these weapons, ideal for the highly mobile guerrilla war waged by the KLA, were no it seems to have proved in the five days' fighting culminating saw the brief capture and par-

Albanian army proper has stayed a few miles inland from the border, precisely to avoid "provocations" which could escalate into a full-scale confrontation with the vastly superior Serb forces. This time the scale of the incursion, and the threat to the country's territorial integrity plainly left

them no choice. But there is precious little that Albania on its own can do about it. Even before the virtual collapse of its state - and with it the armed forces - two years ago, the country was the poorest in Europe, with a per capita GDP of under \$4,000 (£2,500). Since then a fragile stability has been restored under the Prime Minister, Pandeli Majko. But refugees on its territory. But the banians in the central Balkans.

tial burning of a village half a tribal factors mean the govmile into Albania, and - for the ernment's writ barely runs to first time - the involvement of the north of the country: and Albanian army units as well as even if it did, the army's border police. In the past, the strength is reckoned to be 10,000 at best, compared with the estimated 40,000-strong Yugoslav army and Serb security forces in and around Kosovo. If Tirana wants military protection, it will have to look to Nato for it - indeed that is precisely what is happening.

After last weekend's announcement that Albania's entire military infrastructure. such as it is, is being placed under the control of the alliance, the country is in reality little more than a Nato protectorate. The official, and for the time being genuine, reason is this scale can tackle the hu-

upshot is that Albania is in a state of undeclared war with Belgrade, What is more, President Milosevic knows that any Nato ground invasion of Kosovo would now come from Albania rather than Macedonia. For that reason, analysts reckon, he may be seeking to push the KLA units back from the border while he builds up ground defences against a Nato at-

But the Serb incursion poses a subtler threat. Throughout the Kosovo crisis, for all the ties of blood and culture, Albania has tried to avoid stoking the fires of a "greater Albania." embracing all or most of Kosovo where Albanians until lately constituted 90 per cent of the population, and a slice of Western Macedonia, where ethnic Albanians are strongly represented. The very notion alarms only a Western takeover on all Slav populations of the region. More fighting could light manitarian crisis posed by the the fuse of a wider, generalised 300,000 or more Kosovo conflict between Slavs and Al-

# MILITARY PRESENCE THE EXTRA 1.800 British troops

being sent to Macedonia will double the number of frontline soldiers on the ground and bring the Army's presence there to full armoured brigade strength. This is a potent, selfsupporting formation that could provide the perfect spearhead to an invasion of Kosovo. But it may not be fully in place for a month and would require huge back-up from other nation's forces before becoming a cred-

The deployment features a squadron of 14 Challenger 1 main battle tanks from the King's Royal Hussars, two companies of armoured infantry with 40 Warrior fighting vehicles from the Irish Guards and the Green Howards, six AS-90 155mm self propelled guns from 4 Regiment Royal Artillery, with combat Royal Enunits. These represent a second the new troops will bring the battle group from 4 Armoured total deployment in Macedonia Brigade (the "Black Rats") and Greece to 6,300. based in Osnabrück, Germany. tactical headquarters, which is already in Macedonia, and its

with Kosovo. Support engineers and an Irish Guards reconnaissance group will leave by ship today from Emden in northern Germany, while the heavy armour will embark on Friday. The troops will be dispatched to join their equipment when it arrives at Thessaloniki in Greece about

10 days later. Units deploying from Britain include 20 light reconnaissance vehicles from the Household Cavalry Regiment, based at Windsor and 10 DROPS logistic support vehicles from Catgineers and other support terick in North Yorkshire. In all, can be done.

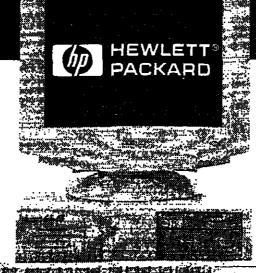
BY JOHN DAVISON

Once fully assembled, the They will join the brigade's brigade will be able to train effectively together for the first time since it was placed on alert lead battle group, which is cur- in February. The lead battle rently deployed on the frontier group has been in Macedonia since the end of the first set of Rambouillet peace talks, and the second battle group has been on 72 hours' notice to move ever since.

Defence sources say it will be 20 to 30 days before the new troops and their equipment are fully operational. Given that this is supposed to be the backbone of a peace-keeping or protection force, the time scale gives a strong indication of how long both the Government and Nato commanders think that the air campaign will have to continue before any deal



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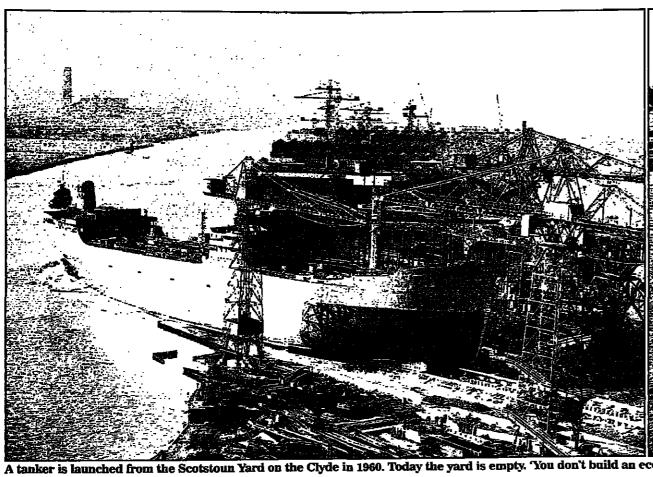
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Forty years on: The once-thriving heartland of British shipbuilding has sunk into a windswept symbol of a lost age





A tanker is launched from the Scotstoun Yard on the Clyde in 1960. Today the yard is empty. You don't build an economy stacking shelves at Tesco,' said John Brown, a Clyde welder for 17 years who is now facing redundancy.

# Last of the great shipyards may die

WORKERS AT Britain's biggest merchant shipbuilding yard put their fate in the hands of politicians yesterday after the Norwegian firm Kvaerner announced it was abandoning the Upper Clyde. Altogether some 5,000 jobs are at risk across Britain with the con-

Scotland Correspondent

glomerate's decision to sell off

its loss-making shipbuilding and engineering operations. A chapter of history is stuttering to a close on the Clyde. When the Crystal Ocean, an

Kvaerner's Govan slipway on Friday, the 1,200 workforce will survey a sorry place.

Ninety-day redundancy notices have been issued. An icebreaker has still to be finished and the company has some steel fabricating work, father into the yard. "This is a

oil support vessel, goes down but it will not last beyond the hard and dangerous physical for Labour. Govan, the consummer. But the alternative of job and we don't live very long. supermarket jobs or working But you don't build an econoin call centres is viewed with my stacking shelves at Tesco disdain by the Clydesiders. or answering the phone." "Shipbuilding is part of me."

Talk of outright closure of such a symbolic vard in the 17 years who followed his middle of the Scottish election

stituency where the shipyard lies, is the most volatile of the Glasgow electoral areas and a prime target for the Scottish National Party. Govan's Labour MP, Mohammed Sarwar, was an early caller at the yard yesterday.

The workers have vowed to eep the yard open, putting their trust in a taskforce set up by Lord Macdonald of Tradeston, the Scottish Industry minister, who started out as a 14-year-old apprentice in a neighbouring yard. The task-force is headed by Sir Gavin Laird, the former leader of the shipbuilding and engineering workers whose cousin works at the yard. "He say's he's going to knock the shit out me if I don't get a decent solution," Sir Gavin confided.

Some 990m in taxpayer subsidy has gone into the yard since Kvaerner took it over in 1989. European yards struggle against over-capacity in the industry and competition from the Far East

Lord Macdonald said the taskforce would explore every option to find a buyer. The

ries for the Ministry of Defence. If the consortium of which Kvaerner is a part wins the £240m contract, the yard becomes a much more attractive buy. However, Lord Macdonald refused to make any commitment on awarding the work to Govan. It is the only UK yard in the running but the Government is hamstrung by

European competition rules.
The SNP called for an immediate placing of the MoD order to make the yard more attractive to buyers. Nicola Sturgeon, the party's candidate for Govan in the 6 May elections, said: "This is a spoke in the wheel of Labour's faltering good news machine."

Jamie Webster, the union convenor, said there was "no despondency whatsoever". So long as fabrication work can be found to tide the yard through to September, the workforce was hopeful of winning the ferries order. "We have had 90-day notices before this and come through," he said.

Kvaerner's other operation on the Clyde, the former John yard's future is heavily depen- and Queen Elizabeth II were they will decided dent on a bid to build six fer-built, is much more likely to survive or not."

attract a buyer. With a work since switched to making turbines and has a healthy order book. Also for sale are the company's bridge building operation in Darlington employing 600 people, and its Davy Roll operations in Gateshead and Sheffield. together employing 300 people. Under "review" are oil and gas operations in Aberdeer and London, with a total of 1,600 employees, and fabrication yards in Fife and Teesside which employ around 300 and

900 workers respectively. In Govan's giant hangers and around the Crystal Ocean Alexander Nicol, a plater/fabricator, said the present crisis was the worst he had seen in 23 years at the yard. "The only market outside here is for short-term contract work, travelling around the country or abroad," he said.

Mr Brown, who acts as the welders' shop steward, is determined it will not end that way. "We have to use the election to our advantage and put Brown yard, where the liners pressure on politicians," he Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth said. "At the end of the day, they will decide whether we

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said John Brown, a welder for

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# Town with a heritage trail but no future

IF YOU had followed the tourist board's heritage trail in Govan yesterday, you would have witnessed the end of an era. At site number 13 on the tour stood idle cranes as workers at the UK's biggest merchant shipyard contemplated its likely closure.

Where once a visitor would have been greeted by the deafening noise of riveters and blacksmiths, people were talking yesterday of never again hearing "the hammer's ding

dong".
This is where for more than a century, at the sight of a red flag above the yard, schools on this western edge of Glasgow have emptied to see the launch of another great vessel on the Clyde. The children will be there again on Friday to watch the Crystal Ocean go down a

slipway, but that could be the last big party.

Building ships has long been an inspiration for Govan people. At the turn of the century they could claim that the majorithes. could claim that the majority of ships on the high seas were Clyde built. More than 100,000 people were employed in 50 yards. Now there are a handful and if the Kvaerner shipyard goes, taking 1,200 jobs, the industry is dead.

It has been dying for a long time. The docks are derelict in places, filled with debris. Walk down the Govan Road from the yard and you pass TC Mini Market, Bargain Cabin and The Lyceum Cafe, all boarded up. Even the cheque-cashing shops are closing for lack of custom. A man from the Cheap and Cheerful Charity Shop joked yesterday about the most recent business failure. "It's a bad day in Govan," he said, "when

an off licence shuts." It was all very different before years of shipyard redundancies and natural wastage crippled the local economy. "Govan used to be great," recalled Marion Begley. 53, many of whose family have worked in the yard. "Everyone came to

BY JACK O'SULLIVAN

Govan to do their shopping. All the shops were here. There were three or four picture halls. Now there are none."

Govan itself remains in its faded grandeur a tribute to local ambition, with large stone-built civil buildings. The memory of John Elder, who developed the shipyard in 1864 out of Fairfield Farm, survives in the once elegant Elder Park and Elder public library. Peo-

Jimmy Reid: Led the shipyard sit-ins

ple miss the beautiful Victorian cottages that were demolished to make way for the subway from Glasgow. At Govan's heart still stands the Pearce Institute, built in 1902 from shipbuilding profits, and, with its vast vaulted concert hall, a match in its day for the new futuristic Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre standing just across the Clyde.

A large notice outside the institute, now essentially a community centre, still expresses the outward-looking spirit of shipbuilding towns, describing itself as "for the strangers of the

Govan's fate is not only central to the history of shipbuilding, it also marks a political turnaround. It was the Clydeside shipyards, led by the overt Communists Jimmy Reid and

Jimmy Airlie, which found the weaknesses in Edward Heath's brand of Conservatism. When Heath refused to bail out the loss-making yard in 1972, they staged a sit-in. "Everyone around here gave a pound or two to keep us going," recalled David Hunter, 64, a retired labourer at the yard, yesterday. "We even got money from Russia. There was no overtime, but we were making better basic wages than before."

Eventually, the Government agreed a rescue package. It is said that victory inspired the miners to take on the Government in 1973 and led to the Thatcherite takeover of the Tory party. Yet throughout nearly two decades of closures of steel mills at Ravenscraig and of a dozen Scottish pits, the shipyard at Govan stayed open. Even Michael Forsyth, the arch-Thatcherite, battled on behalf of Govan to secure defence contracts.

The great irony is that the yard survived Thatcherism but may be closed by the powerlessness of Lord Macdonald of Tradeston, the Scottish Industry minister, himself a marine fitter on Clydeside in the 1950s

and took part in the early sit-ins. It is tempting to think that this closure was always inevitable. You might think that younger people must have reconciled themselves to the fact that they would not follow their fathers and grandfathers into ship-

Yet chatting to young people around Govan yesterday, it was clear that many had still expected to work in the yard.

William Magee, 14, lives near the shipyard. In his Nike sweatshirt and trainers, he said: "My grandad worked there for 18 years. Everyone wanted to work there. If it stays open, I'm definitely going for an apprenticeship when I am 16." For him, the history of shipbuilding on Clydeside may be about to end

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# Bill Bloke: just hanging out with the kids

WILLIAM HAGUE scored mid- By CLARE GARNER AND dling marks in economics and ANDREW GRICE a commendation for his grasp of the Kosovo crisis yesterday, but the boys at Tunbridge Wells Grammar School awarded the visiting Tory leader nil points for personality.

The visit was Mr Hague's much-trumpeted début outing as a "regular guy" who likes "hanging out" with young people. Instead of attending the launch in London of the Tory party's campaign for next month's local elections, he spent the morning shooting the breeze with some 18-yearold lads. As relaunches go, it was a "softly, softly" affair. The Tory leader tip-toed gently into the school to avoid disturbing mock A-level examinations.

Pupils he met seemed underwhelmed. "He was trying too hard to relate to us and seemed a bit fake," said Chris Terry, 18. "He kept saying, Good luck with your A-levels, this is the hardest time in your life'."

The sixth-formers were not. however, in need of any reassurance. Chris, who is studying maths, economics and chemistry, was not afraid to take issue with Mr Hague. "He said there might be a lack of innovation in this country, but I suggested that there was a lack of investment which meant that people with good ideas went

Mr Hague, he concluded,

tions. "It just seemed that when he felt the question was going to be extended deeper, he changed to a different question... He didn't have anything special to make people listen to him." But he conceded that the Tory leader had been "good on the simpler questions".

Twenty-five prefects were invited to the half-hour audience with Mr Hague in the school library. They were given carte blanche to ask questions on any subject.

Wayne Sykens, 18, said that Mr Hague seemed "quite a nice bloke, really" but lacked charisma - reinforcing the findings of the Tories' opinion polls. "He doesn't captivate the room," he said. Richard Lyne,



Mr Hague meeting sixth-formers at Tunbridge Wells. One said: 'He was trying too hard to relate to us'

"Do you believe that the Con-

servative Party was responsi-

ble for destroying primary and

secondary industry?" Later.

the head boy, asked to nervous believes in what he says." laughter from his schoolmates: Vesterday's visit marked the beginning of a campaign designed to bring out the "real" William Hague from behind the fuddy-duddy image. How-Richard gave Mr Hague the ever, the man unmasked turned benefit of the doubt: "He is a out to be rather shy: Conserv-

press from his visit, refusing to reveal the name of the school. Mr Hague's absence from

the Tories' London press conference dominated that event. Michael Ancram, the party chairman, who said Mr Hague was "leading from the front", very intelligent politician. He ative Central Office barred the was promptly asked why party

officials would not say precisely where he was leading from. Despite promises by Tory staff, Sebastian Coe. Unfortu-

spin-doctors that Mr Hague would throw off his "man-in-asuit" image for shirtsleeves, the school visit was deemed unsuitable for such informality. Mr Hague played it safe, sporting a blue suit and polkadot tie - "the sort of clothes you would expect a Conservative

Anything else would have been fatal. "If he had turned up in a T-shirt and baseball cap, we would have had a good snigger,"

master, Derek Barnard put it.

The visit did generate some

genuine excitement yesterday over Mr Hague's chief of

nately, the former Olympic gold medallist stayed in the shadows and did not answer questions. The boys would have loved to have met Sebastian Coe." Mr Barnard said. "I managed to get a few autographs but not as many as they would have liked." ■ Paddy Ashdown launched the Liberal Democrats' local leader to wear", as the head-

the Tories to apologise for their

election campaign by calling on

Peter J Jordan

"victimisation of local government" and telling Labour: "Doing a little bit better than the Tories on public services simply isn't good enough." IN BRIEF MP's trial jury 'wrongly directed' THE JURY that found the Labour MP Fiona Jones guilty new of fraud was wrongly directed on what constituted an

election expense, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday. Jones, 42, was convicted last month of making a false declaration of election costs. The appeal continues today. Hospital blamed over boy's death A FATHER told an inquest how his son died from a brain

injury after being sent home from hospital. Usman Ali, five, was taken to Sheffield Children's Hospital on November 19 last year. Shokat Ali said his son "couldn't stand up, so I asked why he was being sent home but was told the X-ray was fine". The inquest continues today. Search for riverbank gardener

POLICE MADE a large-scale search yesterday for a man

whose burnt ride-on lawnmower was found near a riverbank. John Lewis' charred clothing was found on Monday at the River Severn near Gloucester. Police said he may have run to the river after his clothes caught fire while gardening. It is feared the 64-year-old drowned.

'Time machine' tablets in the UK

tablets" is to be launched in London after proving popular on the Continent. Oligomeric Pro Anthocyanidolic (OPC) capsules contain a cocktail of chemicals, which the manufacturers say blitz the body with antioxidants to fight skin damage. A month's supply is sold for £25.

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# BRIEF

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# Sinn Fein rejects April 1 accord

the resumed Northern Ireland political talks yesterday saw Sinn Fein at odds with Mo Mowlam at the outset of what is shaping up as a lengthy and gruelling negotiation.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland presented the Hillsborough Castle draft declaration of 1 April as "the best guess" of Tony Blair and the Irish Prime Minister, Bertie Ahern, on how agreement could be reached on the arms decommissioning issue. But the Sinn Fein chairman. Mitchel McLaughlin, said his party was formally rejecting the draft declaration, which calls for some arms to be put "beyond use" as part of the procedure of setting up a new Northern Ireland government.

The Sinn Fein approach yesterday was to hark back to last year's Good Friday Agreement. which makes no such unambiguous statement about decommissioning. The Ulster Unionist position is that the draft declaration represents a significant improvement on the Agreement

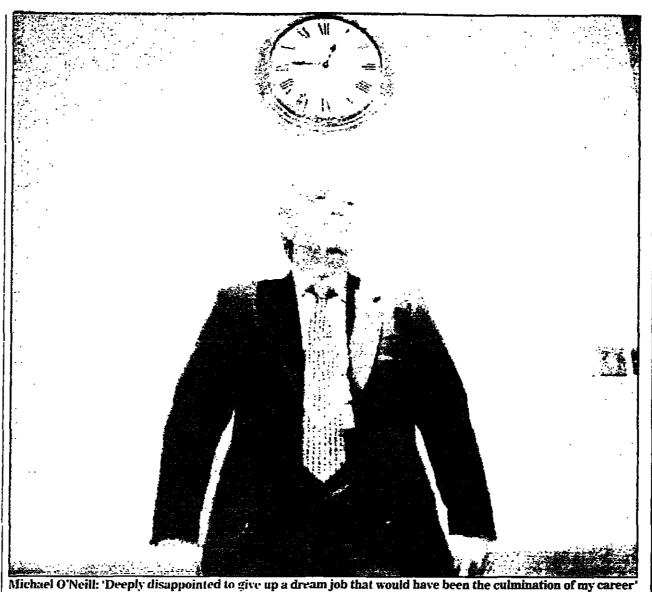
Sinn Fein's president, Gerry Adams, declared: "What the declaration does is make the transfer of power to the institutions conditional upon the delivery of IRA weapons. Sinn Fein has been consistent privately and publicly in saying we cannot de-

liver on that precondition." The Irish government signalled that it favoured negotiations continuing on the basis of the declaration. Liz O'Donnell, a junior foreign minister. said: "It was the two governments' best effort to point a way to where we might find an accommodation in terms of timing and sequencing for some act of disarmament, which would meet both sides' re-

PRELIMINARY skirmishing in By DAVID MCKITTRICK Ireland Correspondent

> tion. It is not a final document. it is something we can work on." While the document had only draft status and is clearly open to amendment during the present talks, it seems most unlikely that either government. and certainly not the Ulster Unionists, will move away from the principle that some guns must be put beyond use. It may take some time, however, to establish whether the republican "no" means "no", or whether Sinn Fein and the IRA might be open to some move that could be presented as voluntary on the IRA's part.

During vesterday's series of round-table and bilateral meetings, Mr Adams had a 45minute encounter with the Ulster Unionist leader, David Trimble. The talks are to continue today, with the possibili ty that Mr Blair and Mr Ahern could join them later in the week if progress seems likely. Sinn Fein complained yesterday about the arrest of four men in South Armagh. apparently for questioning about the murder in January of the IRA critic Eamon Collins, who was found battered to death near his home in Newry. A representative described the arrests as "blatantly provocative harassment" ■ The four members of the IRA's Balcombe Street gang whose release from prison after 24 years was approved by the Irish government last week were finally freed last night, republican sources in Dublin said. Hugh Doherty, Eddie Butler, Harry Duggan and Martin O'Connell, who were given multiple life sentences for a British bombing campaign in the early 1970s, had returned to jail earlier this week, after parole, to



# Bank chief resigns on day one

MICHAEL O'NEILL was lured to Britain by Barclays Bank with an offer he could not refuse: a three-year pay package worth £10m. Yesterday, he returned to California after resigning as chief executive on his first day

His departure, on medical grounds, plunged the bank into turmoil, leaving it rudderless for the second time in five

marine with a glittering career in American banking, was hailed as Barclays' great hope when he was appointed in February, after the surprise resignation of his predecessor. Martin Taylor, last November.

But a black cloud already hung over Mr O'Neill when he flew to Heathrow on Sunday. Six

BY KATHY MARKS AND ANDREW GARFIELD

flu. Last Tuesday, he telephoned Sir Peter Middleton, Barclays acting chief executive. He told him that he had been diagnosed with an archythmic heartbeat - a serious condition that is aggravated by stress - and ad-

and announced to a stunned City

at 7.30am vesterday.

vised not to take up the post. Sir Peter persuaded Mr O'Neill to come to London, for Mr O'Neill, 52, a former US an examination by the bank's own doctor, who confirmed the diagnosis. His resignation was rubber-stamped at an emergency board meeting on Monday

Mr O'Neill - poached from the Bank of America, where he was chief financial officer had aiready delayed his startdays earlier, he had been to see ling date by three weeks behis doctor in San Francisco cause of the flu. He had been to because of two black-outs he London several times since his

house-hunting in Hampstead, that he described as "the culwhere he has owned a home in mination of my whole career". the past. His wife was planning to join him on Thursday, followed by his two sons at the end

of the school year. Mr O'Neill had also bought 25m of Barclays shares with his own money, a condition of receiving another 25m stake as part of his pay package.

But, having quit before he reached his desk, that fabled package - the envy of the City - never materialised. Sir Peter said: "He has taken nothing neither in terms of salary or

It was not for the money, however, that Mr O'Neill took the Barclays job; he already has a personal fortune estimated at \$50m, and had been relishing a challenge that would have crowned his career. Before flywas "deeply disappointed" to him to take up this job."

Colleagues put it more strongly, he was "devastated", said one, his life had "completely flipped around". Barclays said it was "disap-

pointed", which was another understatement. Mr O'Neill was paraded as a great catch by the bank, after Mr Taylor resigned in response to a series of boardroom disputes, and Barclays is left again without a chief executive at a time of

great upheaval in the industry.

A spokesman for the bank said events could not have been foreseen. "Mike had an intensive three-hour medical earlier this year which he passed with flying colours ... The flu brought out or aggravated something that could not have been detected, and clearly it ing home yesterday, he said he would not have been right for

More for your money

# Your Chance TO QUESTION PETER MANDELSON

THIS WEEK Independent readers have an opportunity that has been denied every top press and television interviewer for the past four months: the chance to put questions to Peter Mandelson, What does he miss most about life at the top? How has he been spending his time since he resigned? Why did he take out the home loan that precipitated his fall? Does he think public life now makes private life impossible? What are his favourite novel, film and painting? Since losing his cabinet job, has he lost friends?

In answering questions from our readers. Mr Mandelson honours a commitment he made before his resignation. His answers will be published in Saturday's Independent, in advance of the publication of a new

On Monday, The **Independent begins** serialisation of the biography, which is neither authorised nor official and which is a compelling

book, Mandelson, by

Donald Macintyre.



part in the making of New Labour.

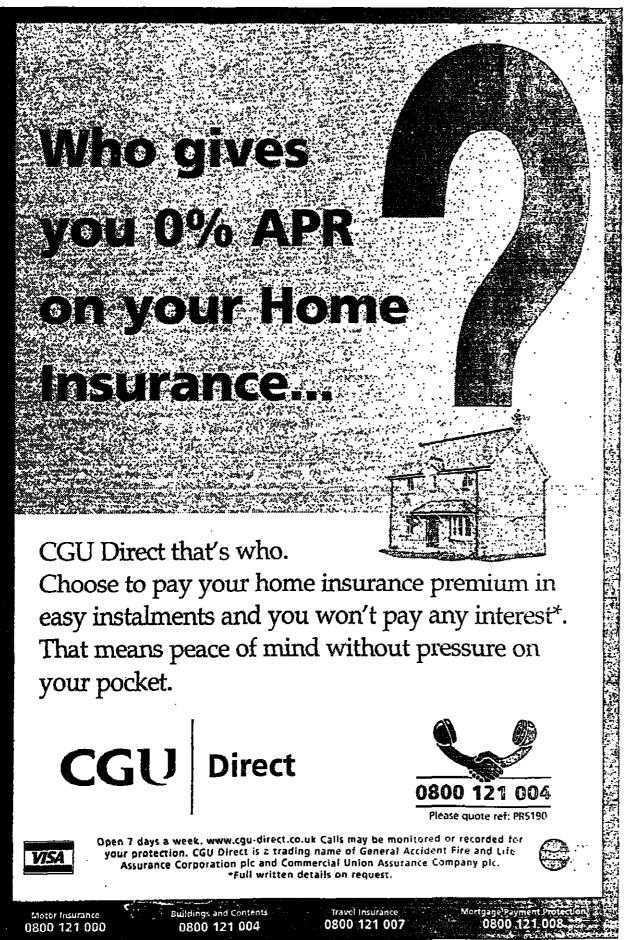
Readers who wish to take part in this unique opportunity to interview one of the most vivid and controversial figures in modern politics can pose their questions in one of four ways.

a) Simply call in your question by telephone on 0171-293 2844 between 9am and 5pm today and tomorrow.

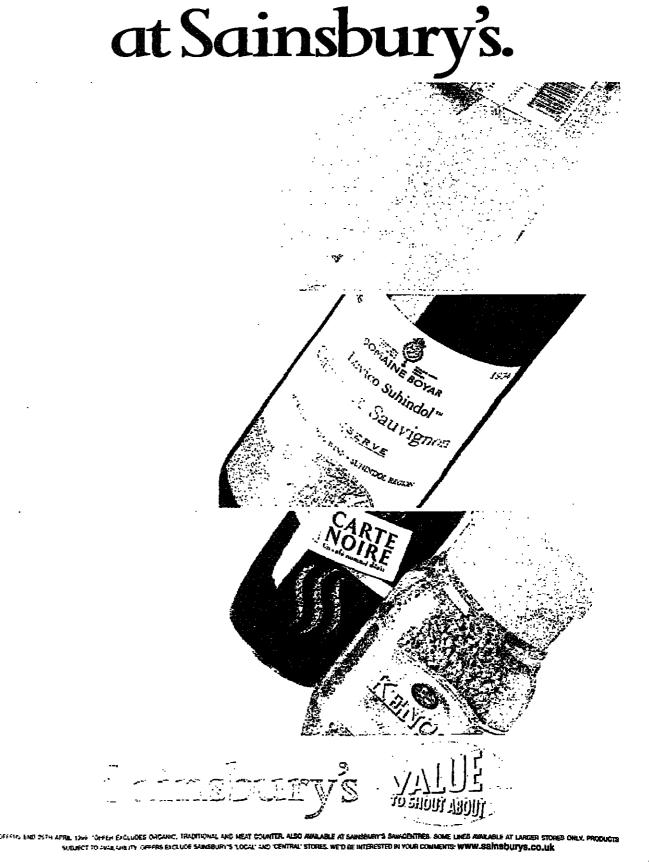
b) E-mail your question to mandelsonquestions @independent.co.uk to reach us no later than 5pm tomorrow.

c) Fax your question to us on 0171 293 2453 by 5pm tomorrow.

d)Send your question on a postcard to Mandelson Talks!, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf. account of one man's London E14 5DL.



£.\_\_\_\_



# Brigadier Blair deals with the barrack-room lawyers

YOU CAN tell things are serious flare of last week - though Tam did queries more in sorrow than in when Paddy Ashdown gets up and come up with an unexpected final nobody groans. Yesterday the Liberal Democrats' leader rose to the asking the Prime Minister to one of David Blunkett's remedial kind of respectful silence which has long been just a wistful memory for reliability of reports from Belgrade- to go over all this again" his tone him. That moment of restraint was symptomatic of a House in muted and reflective mood.

It wasn't solemnity exactly, more a kind of battle-weariness - the elation of enlistment and resistance having passed and MPs now settling in for the long slog. There was even something rather desultory about the interventions from Tony Benn and Tam Dalyell - indignation by numbers rather than the volatile

flanking attack in a point of order. a particularly dim-witted pupil at reconsider some remarks about the based reporters. First Tony Blair bombs our former wartime allies. Slobodan Milosevic's ethnic cleansthen he insults John Simpson. Is ing was already underway before a there nothing he won't stoop to?

The Prime Minister himself gave war effort and himself. He still doesn't care much for contradiction, however admirably democratic it

anger, as though the questioner is summer schools. "Do I really have implies, as he insists that President single Nato bomb was dropped.

The more troublesome pupils a reasonably convincing perfor- don't always take this quietly. When mance of command - both of the Mr Blair claimed that, as a result of Nato's action, the pace of ethnic cleansing had "significantly diminished" there were mutters of dismay be, but apart from the odd flut- sent from the Tory back row and ter of exasperation, he answers one cry of "Rubbish!", but the



SUTCLIFFE

Prime Minister wasn't to be diverted, "We now know that Belgrade was making detailed plans for ethnic cleansing as early as Febcrescendos in his speech with a quiet, dutiful murmur, prepared to do their homework but not to be wildly enthusiastic about it.

There was a sudden indignant general slur against the "ethnic Albanians", noting that Germany's Kosovo Liberation Army was a largely drug-financed operation.

Mr Dalyell's remarks were racist and they were almost as indignant when Alan Clark rose to alert Mr

benchers hear-heared the ethical sary of Hitler's terror raids on Belgrade. He was "associating this house and this country with the sustained bombardment of a brave and

Christian people".

Mr CLark's implicit comparimoo when Mr Dalyell ventured a son between Mr Blair and the leader of the Third Reich provoked some dissent but nothing like as Federal Police had claimed that the much as that blanket approval for the Serbs did. This was, I suppose, intellectually consistent: a prejudice MPs clearly took the view that in favour of an entire people is no less a prejudice than one against but it was difficult to escape the feeling that it was the praise rather

Blair reminded the House that the question of nationality was irrelevant anyway, that a contmon identity should pre-empt such simplistic categorisations.

"They are human beings at risk," he said simply of the Kosovo refugees. But if he hoped to bring Mr Clark on side, I suspect he was invoking the wrong species altogether. The only chance of doing that would be to gather information on the number of Albanian donkeys injured by reckless Serb militiamen shooting at their riders.



John Hutton MP yesterday launching a booklet for young people living away from home

Better than all the rest

# More troops being sent to Macedonia

TONY BLAIR insisted yesterday that Nato's military action in Yugoslavia would continue until all its demands for a peace settlement were met by President Slobodan Milosevic. The Prime Minister announced "substantial reinforcements" of British troops in the region.

In his first Commons statement since the Easter recess, Mr Blair said a second Armoured Battle Group would be sent to support military personnel in Greece and Macedonia to boost the number of Peter Macdiarmid troops by about 1.800, to 6,300.

PM'S STATEMENT By Sarah Schaefer Political Reporter

"They are being sent so that the UK can be in a position to play our proper role in the international effort to ensure the refugees are able to return to Kosovo in safety," he said.

The Prime Minister stressed there could be no compromise in the commitment to defeat the "hideous policy" of ethnic cleansing. "This action will take time. Dictators like Milosevic do not bow down at the first setback to their plans. But as the weather improves, his forces will have fewer hiding places." He told MPs that every day the air attacks were causing further damage to "Milosevic's military

He added: "The conflict we now face in Kosovo is a test of our commitment and our resolve to ensure that the 21st century does not begin with a continuing reminder in Eucentury now drawing to a

William Hague, the Conservative leader, expressed his party's continuing support. But he added: "You have said there was no question of committing ground troops to an invasion of Kosovo in advance of a political settlement. More recently you have stated you are keeping all options under review. Was the second of these statements intended in any way to modify the first?" Mr Blair said the objec-

tives would remain exactly the

same as Nato had set out.

But backbench concern erupted again when Tony Benn, the Labour MP for Chesterfield, said: "If the air war goes on for weeks and months and even longer, with all the death and destruction that it causes, what contribution do you think that will make to long-term peace and stability in the Balkans?"

rope of the worst aspects of the war correspondent and Independent MP for Tatton, said to Mr Blair: "Is it not true that circumstances on the ground can only be changed by boots on the ground? Do we not have a moral, as well as a military imperative, to go for a ground intervention, whether opposed or unopposed?"

Alice Mahon, the Labour MP for Halifax, questioned what was "humanitarian" about the action when Kosovo Albanians were driven out of their country and the Serbs were being bombed back to the Stone Age".

The Labour MP Clive Soley said his Ealing, Acton and Shepherd's Bush constituency contained more Serbians than most others. "Although they are desperately unhappy about the bombing they also know that there is a sense of shame among the Serb people for what is being done in their name. Ethnic cleansing is no part of Serbian culture."

THE HOUSE

new

# Lords' threat to block Bill

THE GOVERNMENT braced it- AGE OF CONSENT self for a constitutional clash with the House of Lords last night as peers were expected to vote against the lowering of the age of consent for homosexuals from 18 to 16.

Baroness Young, a Tory peer, took the unusual step of moving a wrecking amendment to the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill during its second reading in an attempt to have the legislation thrown out. But ministers have made clear they will invoke the Parliament Act, which can overrule peers, and reintroduce the measure in the Queen's Speech.

The legislation, which includes safeguards for young people in care, was overwhelmingly backed in the Commons in a free vote earlier this year But Lady Young said she had all-party support for her

Bill partly because it "makes legal for the first time buggery or both boys and girls.

She added she opposed the

"I can only suppose this is a rather curious equal opportunity," she said. The law "influ-

ences behaviour" and lowering the age of consent would "send out the wrong signal to young people".

Opening the debate, Lord Williams of Mostyn, a Home Office minister, urged peers to back the measure to ensure "equality before the criminal law" for homosexuals.

"We believe this is a fundamental principle of equality.. we are not opening the floodgates of social change for further reductions in the age of consent"

The Liberal Democrat Earl Russell told Lady Young: "I do not believe there are going to be any fewer homosexual acts if you are successful."

The Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Rt Rev James Thompson, said the current law endorsed a judgemental and sometimes violent attitude towards homosexuality and made gays "less safe. They have nowhere to go to find out how they could sort their lives

universal capping, the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, said. But the Government would monitor the finances of 12 local authorities that set the largest budgets for 1999-2000.

**Council limits** 

Council budgets in

limited by the

England will not be

after the ending of

Government this year

Attack on care

Government plans to set up primary care trusts came under attack by the Tories. Ann Widdecombe. the shadow health secretary, said: "Not a single thing in this [Health] Bill is going to address the problems of the totally dispossessed."

# **QUESTIONS** AND **ANSWERS**

Clegg cost £1m

THE COST to the Ministry of Defence of defending paratrooper Lee Clegg, who was cleared of murdering a Belfast teenager earlier this year. was over £1m, the Armed Forces minister, Doug Henderson, disclosed That did not include the cost of the first trial. which was met by the Northern Ireland Office.

# Today's agenda

Commons: Backbench debates on BBC coverage of Parliament: preservation of wildlife: access for the disabled to railway stations in Lewisham; housing projections for Gloucestershire; human rights in Colombia. International development questions.

PM's Questions. Access to Justice Bill, second reading. Short debate on investigations of murders of Britons in Bahamas. Lords: Debates on tax and spending levels and action against Armenian people by Turkey in 1915.

# out." he said. Foreign Office checks MI6 link

MINISTERS PROMISED action to curb the activities of mercenaries last night in response to the arms to Sierra Leone affair. Robin Cook is also over-

hauling his department's links with MI6 amid criticism that intelligence reports on shipments of arms by British mercenaries were not seen by officials. But the official response to a critical report by the Foreign Affairs Committee rejected suggestions that Mr Cook's most senior official had failed in his duties.

Ministers will now hope to put the affair behind them. It deepened after the mercenary company Sandline International broke an arms embargo on Sierra Leone but escaped prosecution by claiming officials were aware of its activities. A further row broke out after a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Ernie Ross, was forced to resign after admitting leaking a draft of the report to Mr Cook.

The Foreign Secretary had said that failings by his department had already been addressed after an official report into the débacle was published By Fran Abrams

Westminster Correspondent

last July. He criticised the MPs

for deciding to go ahead with

their own, subsequent inquiry But although last night's response to the MPs' report defended officials and ministers, it also made several concessions. It accepted calls for a consultative Green Paper on the activities of mercenaries and announced that arrangements for liaison with intelligence agen-

cies were being modernised. It added that allowing Britain's High Commissioner, Peter Penfold, to go into exile in Guinea with the Sierra Leone government, when Britain had no permanent diplomatic post

there, may have been foolish. The chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Donald Anderson, said he was encouraged by the progress that had been

But the Conservatives attacked the Government for its refusal to admit a string of failings in the Foreign Office.

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# Boys 'intimidate' girls into dropping science

SINGLE SEX science classes By JUDITH JUDD from the age of 11 onwards and flashy cars for physics teachers would stop girls giving up physics, an academic said vesterday. Girls are intimidated by boys and their confidence in their scientific ability increases if they are taught separately, according to Averil Macdonald, an educational consultant and part-time lecturer at the Uni-

versity of Reading.

Ms Macdonald told the Institute of Physics Congress at the University of Salford that research showed girls from single sex schools did better in science than those at mixed schools and were more likely to carry on with science to A-

level and at university. Girls are now outperforming boys in science and technology at GCSE but only one in five Alevel physics student is a girl and boys account for an even higher proportion of A-level

It's not only

Education Editor

entries than they did 10 years ago. Research published four years ago by the University of Bristol's department of education found that about half of girls who had been taught GCSE physics in all-girl classes went on to take it at Alevel, compared with only a handful in previous years.

Eighty two per cent in the single-sex classes achieved A to C grades, compared with a national average of 40 per cent.

Ms Macdonald, a former physics teacher, said: "Boys are more confident and vociferous than girls in a mixed environment and they tend to take over. Teachers will say that we need girls in mixed classes because they are a civilising influence. Does that mean we are prepared to sacrifice girls so that boys do

HOW THE SEXES

COMPARE A-level Physics

Entries 23.119 6.553 Pass rate 88.7% 91% Chemistry Entries 20.132 16.971 Pass rate 88.4% 90% Biology

19.822 29.070 i Entries Pass rate 85.9% 88.4% Source: 1998 A-level exam statistics for candidates aged between 16 and 18

their best?" Ms Macdonald said the problem of persuading girls to do physics had become acute now that nearly all British schools were coeducational

Girls do very well at GCSE. They simply choose not to do feel they are approved of and as soon as they feel slightly intimidated by boys they back off. Boys are happy about taking risks and don't mind being wrong. They like to compete. Girls don't like being wrong, so

they won't compete." Girls needed to be reassured that they could do physics well, she added. At present, most pupils study "double award science", which includes physics, chemistry and biology.

Pupils do not know their mark for each individual subect, so girls tend to assume that their biology result has pulled their total mark up. Ms Macdonald argued that each of the three sciences should be graded separately. She added that all physics teachers should be given an expensive car to show that physics was it at A level because they don't a rewarding prestigious career.

# Nurses to replace GPs in new NHS

THE BIGGEST transformation By JEREMY LAURANCE of the NHS in its 50-year history, with nurses replacing GPs as the "gatekeepers" to care, was heralded by the Prime

Minister yesterday. The changes could spell the end of the family doctor providing for all the patient's needs. Instead, patients would receive personalised care based on their medical history from a variety of health professionals, according to their needs.

The change would be a natural development of Primary Care Groups (PCGs) ~ clusters of GP practices serving populations of about 100,000 - which replaced the GP fundholding scheme on 1 April. PCGs have already been compared to Health Maintenance Organisations in the US, which have responsibility for all the health needs of the populations they

As forecast in The Independent two months ago, the first steps towards realising this vision were spelt out by Mr Blair yesterday in a speech in Birmingham to the first conference for PCGs, attended by 1,000 GPs, nurses and managers. He announced a network of 20 walk-in "health shops", to be led by nurses, where patients would be able to get instant care for minor ailments and which would be open from 7am to 10pm on weekdays. Mr Blair said: "The NHS has to keep up with developments in other areas of people's lives."

But the biggest change is to the NHS Direct 24-hour helpline, which is rapidly being developed as a new first point of contact for patients seeking medical care. The nurse-run advice line is to be given a bigger role in three pilot areas - the North-east, Nottinghamshire and west London - where it will hours. Other services to be even privatised."

Caring prison

staff 'mocked'

Health Editor

tested include nurses making calls to check on patients. Advice will also be provided over the Internet with access points in post offices, libraries and accident and emergency units.

Stephen Thornton, chief executive of the NHS Confederation, welcomed Mr Blair's "inspirational vision" but warned it would lead to an enormous rise in public expectations. "A telephone banking style front-end to the NHS

... requires nothing short of a complete transformation. My concern is that we may get an exciting front-end to the service and the core services - property staffed hospitals and goodquality cancer treatment won't be able to keep up." Mr Thornton said the plans

spelt a "radical transformation of general practice" in hich the first point of contact for patients would be a professional more like a nurse than a doctor. "It could perhaps spell the end of the family doctor." Christine Hancock, general

secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, said nurses were being given extra authority to help patients to treat themselves. "Nurses are good listeners and may be better placed to help people with com-mon problems," she said.

But the British Medical Association said it was dismayed by the plans. Simon Fradd, deputy chairman of the GPs' committee, said the future of general practice was threatened. "GPs will no longer be coordinating everything. If you take over large chunks of the GPs' work it undermines the core service they provide and breaks the doctor-patient relationship. General practice could field all calls to GPs out of be fragmented, destabilised and

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to show a caring attitude Home Affairs Correspondent towards prisoners are the subof Prisons said yesterday. Publishing his annual re-

port, Sir David Ramsbotham of the Prison Service, to chalsaid the Prison Service was bedevilled by the premise that prisoners were "subordinates". New prison officers fired with

enthusiasm for working positively with inmates are quickly put in their place by senior colleagues, who exert "domination and intimidation, a pernicious way of influencing colleagues",

In what will be seen by some of the Prison Service no good."

YOUNG PRISON officers who by BY IAN BURRELL

ject of "domination and intim- as a challenge to the prison idation" by cynical older chiefs to crack down on the colleagues, the Chief Inspector Prison Officers' Association, Sir David called on Martin Narey, the new director-general lenge the entrenched staff

> He said: "I suggest to Mr Narey that no factor will better enable him to respond to the Home Secretary's objectives than a determined and suswherever it manifests itself. It is inward looking, it is a blame culture, and it does the name

attitude at many prisons.

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# Airbag may have killed crash driver

A WOMAN who died after her car was involved in a head-on collision may have been the inflation of a driver's airbag, an inquest was told yesterday.

legal executive, died after the ed States. collision near St Helens, Merseyside, last year. Although the airbag of her Rover 400 stopped her hitting the Windscreen or the steering

the first time the role of an first motorist to be killed by the airbag has been questioned in connection with a death in the UK, although there have been Jennifer Reichardt, 47, a many such cases in the Unit-

Dr Kenneth Mason, of Whiston Hospital accident and emergency department, where by the blow to her head. Ms Reichardt was taken after the crash, told the inquest that wheel, she still suffered a frac- it was the first case of its kind tured skull. It is thought to be he had seen in 17 years of

A&E medicine. "This is the first case where I suspected it might be an air-bag," he said. "I considered the possibility that the injury was caused by being thrown back by the airbag against the head restraint." He told the jury that Ms Reichardt's only lifethreatening injury was caused

Ernest Gradwell, a consultant pathologist at the hospital, who did a post-mortem examination, said: "Miss Reichardt

base of her skull which is the first I have ever seen. This type of fracture is very uncommon ... there appeared to be no contact with the car windscreen or steering wheel."

He said she had come into contact with a force similar to someone jumping off the top of

Paul Leyland, the driver of an Opel Ascona, which was in collision with Ms Reichardt's car, said that just before the

sustained a fracture to the crash, as he slowed into an approaching bend, his car juddered and continued in a straight line. "The car pulled to the left and I could not control it as I went straight on I collided with another car. I tried to get out of the way but I

couldn't," he said. Mr Leyland, 22, who had just had suspension work carried out on the vehicle, said he walked away from his 13-yearold car, which had no airbag. with just a cut lip.

The inquest at St Helens town Hall was told that he was fined £250 last year for driving without due care and attention.

PC Harry Jones, an off-duty officer who arrived at the scene of the accident, said the front of the car was crushed down to the front of Ms Reichardt's legs, but he did not believe that had caused her fatal injuries. He added that she had been wearing a seatbelt and was neither too close nor too far from the steering wheel.

hicle examiner with Merseyside Police, thought the injuries were caused by the airbag rather than by the car's bulkhead. He said: "It would appear had the airbag not been employed the outcome of the accident could have been totally

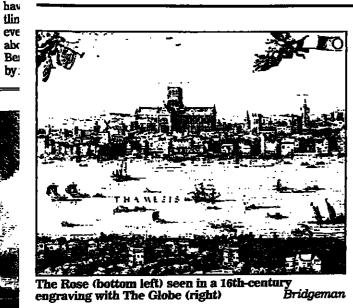
different." PC Walsh said he found nothing wrong with either vehicle that would have caused

In a crash, an airbag opens

PC Harry Walsh, senior ve- at up to 200mph, with the force of a heavyweight boxer's punch. The sound of it inflating is twice as loud as a rifle shot-Only two airbag injuries

have been reported in Britain In both case the drivers were burnt, probably by friction. Experts in the United States believe that shorter people sitting closer to the dashboard are more at risk, and in Canada the bags are being designed to in-

flate more slowly. The inquest continues today



Rose Theatre revived after 393 years

A TEN-YEAR campaign to save By DAVID LISTER the remnants of the theatre where Shakespeare and Marlowe staged their plays culminated in a partial victory yesterday when the Rose

Theatre reopened. However, despite the presence of the Secretary of State for Culture, Chris Smith, and the playwright Sir Tom Stoppard, the early wishes of the late Lord Olivier and Dame Peggy Ashcroft that it reopen as a theatre have not been fulfilled. Instead, it will be an exhibition centre - a victory of sorts certainly, as developers

**Arts News Editor** 

once wanted to cover the whole site permanently with offices. The foundations of the inti-

mate open-air theatre, discovered during building work in 1988, are still shrouded in a foot of concrete, sand and water, to preserve them.

A decade ago, protesters including Dame Judi Dench, Sir Ian McKellen, Lord Olivier and Dame Peggy joined local residents to picket the site and save it from the bulldozers.

A £1m grant from the gov-



speare In Love centres on the

ernment of the time compensated developers for changing their plans so they could suspend their 13-storey block on three massive girders over the irreplaceable remnants of

Philip Henslowe's theatre. There are eventual plans to

redesign the new building to include a special basement display space for the theatre remains and it is hoped archaeological advances will enable full excavation in future.

Visitors will be able to see the exhibition, incorporating a

sound and light show narrated by Sir Ian telling the site's history. The campaign patrons Janet Suzman and Sir Tom Stoppard were there to see the opening. Sir Tom's Oscarwinning screenplay Shake-

theatre. He said: "The exhibition is very informative and has Preserving the remains of it was overshadowed by larger, the Rose had been the right newer rivals such as the Globe,

thing to do despite the cost, he said. "We put on a show and a lot of us came here to persuade lowe's theatre, but the young

redevelopment]. Nobody suf- and Henry VI Part One were fered from it. The office build-

ing is here anyway." Ironically, the office building had stood empty for three years after completion, until a government department moved in, and it is only intended to last

The lifespan of the Rose was now reconstructed near by.

It was Christopher Marthe government to stop it [the Shakespeare's Titus Andronicus

staged there before he formed his own company. Geoffrey Rush, the actor

who played Henslowe in the film, sent a message saving: "I applaud this venture. If I was able to stand in front of you and it today, I'd be wearing rosecoloured glasses."

Hughes, said: "This is the holy of holies of English theatre."

From today, visitors can see the exhibition, with admission £3 for adults, £2.50 for conces-

sions and £2 for children.

# **Irvine 'biased** against women'

By ROBERT VERKAJK

THE LORD Chancellor faces further "jobs-for-the-boys" allegations today as a second claim of sex discrimination comes before an industrial tribunal.

Last month Lord Irvine of Lairg was found guilty of indirect sex discrimination by appointing a senior City solicitor and personal friend, Garry Hart, as his special adviser.

Josephine Hayes, a barrister, claims procedures for the allocation of work to barristers representing the Government in civil cases discriminate against women. Her claim stems from a decision to anpoint Philip Sales, a junior barrister and former working colleague of the Lord Chancellor, to the most senior position on the Government's list of retained barristers. Of 116 outside barristers on the list, only 13 are women.

Ms Hayes said she was not given the chance to apply because the appointment was made on the basis of "secret soundings" between the Lord Chancellor, the Solicitor General at the time, Lord Falconer of Thoroton, and five senior members of the judiciary. Today Ms Hayes will ask the tribunal to order the Lord Chancellor, the Attorney General, John Morris QC, and the senior judges to disclose the content

If the tribunal rules against Ms Hayes's application, her solicitor, Sara Leslie, said she would apply for witness orders to force Lord Irvine to attend the tribunal to give evidence.

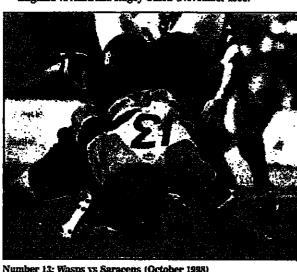
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# Railtrack is 'worse than **British Rail'**

in a worse condition than at privatisation, according to a report yesterday that criticised Railtrack's investment record.

The report, commissioned by the rail regulator, said Railtrack had failed to tackle train delays, shabby stations and ageing signalling. It also found Railtrack's maintenance spending was "below expectations" and warned that a backlog of work was emerging.

John Prescott, the Deputy

Prime Minister, said: "The report paints a sorry picture of its performance as stewards of the country's railway network."

He said he was considering paying the £1.5bn annual subsidy direct to Railtrack, giving the Government a big voice in the company's strategy, as The In-

dependent reported on Monday. Shares in Railtrack fell yesterday with the publication of the report by consultants Booz Allen, who were commissioned last year by the outgoing rail regulator to measure Railtrack's performance since 1995. The new rail regulator, Tom Winsor, will use their findings to set the charges that train operators must pay to use Railtrack's network after 2001. Railtrack has already been told to deliver for tougher regulation.

THE NATIONAL rail network is By PHILIP THORNTON

Transport Correspondent greater improvements or face a cap on its profits.

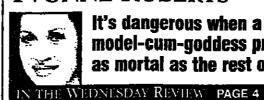
Booz Allen said: "It is likely that there has been a decline in the underlying quality of the network assets as a whole. Generally, Railtrack's physical activity in renewing assets has been below expectations."

The report said Railtrack had funnelled money to areas where it gained the most fi-nancial benefit at the expense of long-term projects to improve journeys for passengers.

Railtrack said the report had been written "with the benefit of hindsight" and before its £27bn, 10-year investment plan was unveiled last month. It said it should be put in the context of a 25 per cent growth in passenger demand and a planned tripling of rail investment. Gerald Corbett, the chief executive of Railtrack, said: "The report highlights there is still much to do. We face huge challenges and Railtrack is dedicated to getting

it right and doing better.' Save Our Railways, the pressure group, said the report left Railtrack's reputation "in tatters" and highlighted the need

# YVONNE ROBERTS



It's dangerous when a role model-cum-goddess proves as mortal as the rest of us

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the area they control.

of Iraqi Kurdistan.

vulnerable to attack.

military guarantee to the whole

The area, inhabited by three

million Kurds, has been outside

President Saddam's control

since 1991, but it remains

Hoshyar Zibəri, a leader of

# Medicoday 14 April 1999 Tive US offers armed support to Kurds Sulaimaniyah. Most important.

THE INDEPENDENT

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The lates applicable este." an seed that I have the the seat that the seattless of ATTER TO THE LATE STATE OF the 270 mil. to 220 mile. HOUSE OF FRASER IDHOLDERS LY HATES OF PATEREST constrictor" as one British

full military protection against President Saddam Hussein to Party (KDP), which controls the Iraqi Kurds if they allow the Western Kurdistan, said: "We Iraqi opposition to base itself in would need to have a no-rly, nodrive zone protecting our cities American and British airfrom Iraqi government retalicraft currently patrol north of ation if we were to co-operate iraq's 36th parailel, but the US with the iraqi opposition." US is considering a radical expanofficials were seriously considsion of its role, by giving a full ering the matter, he said.

The US wants to make the threat to the Iraqi leader. It can do so only by persuading the leaders of the KDP and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. which controls eastern Kurdistan, to allow the Iraqi opposition to be based in areas that

they will only allow this - and break with their current liveand-let-live policy towards Baghdad - if the US promises to defend them.

All sides are conscious of similarities with Nato's efforts to protect the Kosovars from Serbia by the massive use of air power. Ghassan Attiyah, editor of Iraqi File, an analysis of Iraqi opposition a serious events in Iraq, said that the credibility of US guarantees depended on the outcome of the Kosovo crisis: "If Nato succeeds in Kosovo it will be good for us; otherwise we will have to think again."

Mr Attiyah said the Iraqi



opposition could act effectiveagainst President Saddam only if it had bases in Iraq from which to operate. He added that

Baghdad 4

100 mag.

these bases was Kurdistan, be- its long-time leader, from office. tight control of the rest of the

The Iraqi National Congress

(INC), the umbrella organisation of the opposition, had several thousand men in Kurdistan until 1996, when they were forced to flee after Iraqi tanks captured Arbil, the Kurdish capital. Several hundred INC members were killed.

The new American policy began to emerge at a meeting of the INC, held under US auspices, at Windson Berkshire. last week. It was held to reconstitute the divided organisation the one possible location of and remove Ahmad Chalabi.

cause President Saddam had He has been replaced by a collective leadership.

> The meeting was also important as it brought together Kurdish leaders and Iraqi opponents of the Baghdad government.

> Mr Zibari said, however, that the Kurds would participate in the INC only if they had "concrete promises of security from the US". The Kurdish parties have some 20,000 to 30,000 fulltime troops, but they are light infantry. They would need heavier arms and enhanced American air protection to withstand

Iraqi armoured divisions. The White House and the US

State Department have come Sulaimaniyah, Most important, under intense pressure from it would also be turned into a Congress to give teeth to the no-drive zone. This would en-Iraqi opposition. Last year Contail the US building up a capagress passed the Iraq Liberability to stop an Iraqi tank tion Act, under which financial artack. aid and military equipment The Foreign Office said yes-

dam. Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, deepened the US commitment to help the Kurds. US officials at the meeting at Windsor said that they were now considering going further. This would involve extending

Kurdistan. Currently it does not

cover the large Kurdish city of

would go to the INC and other

opponents of President Sad-

to base more American and British aircraft at airfields in eastern Turkey. Without an enhanced military guarantee, the Kurds will the no-fly zone to the whole of not break with Baghdad and the

Iraqi opposition wili remain an

terday it was aware of the pro-

posals, but that there were

practical difficulties involved.

This referred to the need to ob-

tain the co-operation of Turkey

# biased sikhs mark Sikhs mark women 300 years as warrior sect

INDIA'S MOST easily recog- BY PETER POPHAM nised community the Sikhs, in Delhi formed a sea of turbans yesterday at the northern Indian town of Anandpur Sahib, which means "town of bliss", to mark the 300th anniversary of a defining moment in the history of their religion.

Sikhs are, perhaps, the most enterprising and mobile community from the sub-continent. "Sikhs and potatoes are found all over the world," goes a popular gibe. And beyond the world - when Neil Armstrong took his "small step for man" on the moon, Indians joke, he was surprised to bump into a famcame here right after Partition," they explained.

tempt to distil the best of both Hinduism and Islam, sprang from the soil of Punjab, near the 1944 - The anguardments present India-Pakistan border. and it is to this small town in Punjab that 2 million pilgrims have come to take part in the 300th anniversary celebrations of Khalsa (meaning "the Pure"). At Anandpur Sahib on 13 April 1699, the 10th and last Sikh guru, Gobind Singh, converted Sikhs from a docile reious order into a body of fighters, sworn to challenge both the Mogul conquerors and

Hinduism's caste system. The recent history of the Sikhs has been ferocious. A guerrilla movement to create an independent Sikh homeland, Kalistan, led by a charismatic country preacher called Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, split the Sikhs into factions in the 1970s. Sikhism is closely related to Hinduism, from which many of its ideas derive, and it is always at risk of being consumed by its parent - a "boa

scholar put it. The firebrand leader Bhindranwale hit on the perfect way to prevent absorption: make the two communities loathe and fear one another.

The hostilities led to the shelling of Sikhism's Holy of Holies, the Golden Temple in Amritsar (Bhindranwale died in the onslaught), on the orders of prime minister Indira Gandhi on 5 June 1984; in Mrs Gandhi's assassination by her Sikh bodyguards four months later, and in a subsequent pogrom of Sikhs in Delhi and elsewhere. ily of Sikhs strolling about. "We in which the violence burnt itself out

This all-too-recent history has not been forgotten, and extremist Sikhs still haunt the headlines of Indian newspapers. At Anandour Sahih the Sikhs' temporal leader and his fanatical spiritual counterpart held rival celebrations. But this buoyant and adaptable community has devoted the past 15 years to finding new ways to express their identity - mostly by getting rich. Punjab has the richest farm-

land in India, and is the seat of spite being as recognisable as Hassidic Jews, Sikhs are more versatile (and less prudish and inhibited) than most of their countrymen. Famous modern Sikhs include India's most reforming finance minister, Manmohan Singh; its grandest and most scandalous man of letters, Khushwant Singh; and its most successful (and irritating) pop star, Daler Mehndi, who is currently touring the US.

The energy that forced the British to acknowledge Sikhs as India's doughtiest warriors is finding more creative outlets.



Sikh warriors performing a martial arts display in Punjab yesterday at the 'Khalsa' celebrations

# Prodi calls for greater EU unity

Commission's incoming president, called for a new phase of political and economic integration in Europe yesterday, and promised a stronger EU would emerge from the crisis that toppled Jacques Santer.

Mr Prodi, whose backers include Tony Blair, promised thorough reform and an end to EU corruption, but left no doubt about his ambitious visions for European unity.

In a speech that will alarm Eurosceptics, Mr Prodi called for more majority voting in the EU, greater powers for the European Parliament and a "single economy" with "a single political unity".

Mr Prodi was nominated unanimously by Europe's leaders last month to succeed Mr Santer, but his appointment still needs to be ratified by the EU assembly in Strasbourg.

In a politically astute move Mr Prodi defused his main dispute with many MEPs by announcing he would not stand in June's elections to the European Parliament. Last week the former Italian prime minister had angered many parliamentarians by failing to rule out his idature formed Italian centre left party. the Democrats. That would have put him in direct competition with Italian political opponents and their affiliated groupings in the Parliament

Addressing MEPs in Strasbourg, Mr Prodi won support with a strong pledge that he "will not tolerate corruption", and that he and his Commission will drive through "a great age of reform and change. We are not here to conserve, but to reform." he added.

That was enough to win the AP | tacit approval of the two biggest

ROMANO PRODI, the European By STEPHEN CASTLE in Brussels

> groups in the Parliament, the socialists and the centre-right Christian Democrats.

Both the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers should be included in a thorough review of the workings of the EU institutions. said Mr Prodi. There would be a review of the Commission's day-to-day working, and its distribution of portfolios to the 20 Commissioners.

But Mr Prodi also called for "transparent" relations, not only with Parliament, but with the Council of Ministers, the member state representatives whose meetings are held in pr<del>i</del>vate.

Although Mr Prodi's speech came the day after a meeting with Mr Blair in London, much of his language will alarm Downing Street. In particular Mr Prodi argued: "The single market was the theme of the 1980s. The single currency was the theme of the 1990s. We now face the difficult task of moving towards a single economy, a single political unity."

One British source said more details of what was being proposed on the economic front, and in which areas greater majority voting is proposed to operate.

A complicated timetable now exists under which Mr Prodi is due to be ratified in May by the existing European Parliament. Between then and July he will discuss with member states the composition of the new Commission, which will have to be approved by the parliament elected in June. Those hearings will probably take place in late August or early September.

THOUSE OF FRASER CARE PERATED BY GE CAPITAL **Fatchett censored Hong Kong report** Riot police on alert at Anwar trial DARE TO BE DECREASED 3 FOLLOWS:-DEREK FATCHETT the minis-

DERS PATENCE BY DIRECT ter responsible for Hong Kong, WITHLY FATE VILL BE 205 said yesterday that he had censored a report to parliament on NT TO AN APR 0= 27.5 the former British colony, pre-IR CARDED DERS PAYING pared by his own civil servants. Earlier reports, prepared at six-month intervals, detailed R MEANS THE HONTHLY 217% EOL VILENT TO AN progress on each area of the Sino-British agreement after +29.3 [VARIABLE]

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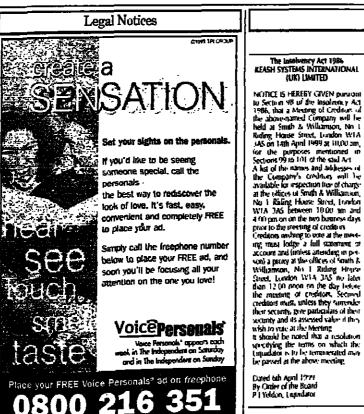
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the handover of Hong Kong in fore the most recent report he said: "I totally refute that

avoid what he called "second guessing" politicians in Hong Kong, toned down the contents of the latest report to "make it less of a language which says we are watching you". There-

in Hong Kong

beginning of the year is shorter, less detailed and, according July 1997. Mr Fatchett, keen to to Mr Fatchett, 'more readable by politicians and the people of Hong Kong".

Asked whether he had intervened because Britain's main concern these days was China rather than Hong Kong,

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submitted to parliament at the suggestion. We welcome evidence that China remains committed to giving Hong Kong the high degree of autonomy promised in the Joint Declaration.

frequently, he added

It had been thought the Government would cease issuing the Hong Kong reports to Par liament. However, they will still be given but not necessarily as

The Imphesive Act 1986 HOLLANDS TOURING HMILLD

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#### MALAYSIA'S FORMER deputy prime minister was bracing himself last night for a proba-

ble prison sentence while riot police began surrounding the square opposite the courthouse with trucks and water cannon.

The courtroom drama that has kept Malaysians glued to their televisions and newspapers for the past six months By SARAH STRICKLAND in Kuala Lumpur

reaches its climax today with the judge's verdict on Anwar Ibrahim, the 51-year-old challenger to the Prime Minister, Mahathir Mohamed.

Mr Anwar is accused of using his position to cover up allegations of sodomy and adul-

ring. Each of the four charges he faces carries a maximum penalty of 14 years and a £3,500

tery. He has always denied the fine but it only needs a sentence charges and claims that he is of one year or a fine of £2,000 to the victim of a political condisqualify Anwar from serving spiracy. It is widely assumed in parliament for the next five that he will receive a prison sen- years. tence of at least two to four years, quashing any immediate plans to re-enter the political

Despite the prospect of a bleak future and a thwarted political career. Anwar was in "extremely high spirits, better than ever" yesterday, according to one of his lawyers.

# IN BRIEF

## Rebels abduct air passengers

THE COLOMBIAN army is searching for the passengers of an airliner hijacked by suspected left-wing rebels and forced to land on a remote airstrip in northern Colombia. People dressed in jungle fatigues then reportedly hustled the 41 passengers and five crew into canoes on the Magdalena river. Police said there were no signs of violence.

## Monitors banned from Algiers poll

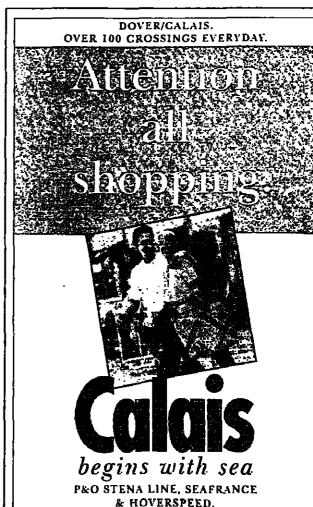
THE INTERNATIONAL Crisis Group, a political watchdog, said yesterday it had serious doubts about the legitimacy of Algeria's presidential election. The Brussels-based ICG attacked the Algiers government for refusing to allow international observers to monitor tomorrow's poll and accused the EU of washing its hands of the issue.

## Sudan ceasefire extended

SUDAN'S GOVERNMENT and rebel armies have agreed to prolong a nine-month-old ceasefire in southern areas at risk from famine ahead of a new round of peace talks next week. The Sudan People's Liberation Army, which wants autonomy for southern Sudan, said it would extend the ceaselire for another three months.

## Airline puts down 40 squirrels

HUNDREDS OF Chinese squirrels were killed by the Dutch air carrier KLM after they escaped from a detainment centre in Amsterdam. About 40 of the 440 scurried across the airstrip and boarded planes. KLM said the animals had incorrect health documents and had to be killed when the exporter refused to take them back.



# Contempt ruling for 'evasive' Clinton

BILL CLINTON was back in BY MARY DEJEVSKY legal trouble yesterday after a in Washington ruling by an Arkansas judge that he was guilty of contempt for his testimony in the sexual harassment lawsuit brought costs for taking his testimony,

In her judgment, Susan Webber Wright cited President Clininstructions to testify truthfully in the Jones lawsuit. "The record demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that the President responded to plaintiff's questions by giving false, misleading and evasive answers that were designed to obstruct the judicial process."

The judge's findings related specifically to Mr Clinton's de- junior state employee. nials of a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky. "Simply put, the President's ... testimony regarding whether he had ever been alone with Ms Lewinsky was intentionally false, and his statements regarding whether he had ever engaged in sexual relations with Ms Lewinsky likewise were intentionally false, notwithstanding tortured definitions and interpretations

of the term 'sexual relations'." Attacking his muchrriticised technique of "parsing" the judge's questions to find legal loopholes, Judge Webber Wright said: "It is simply not acceptable to employ deceptions and falsehoods in an attempt to obstruct the judicial process, understandable as his aggravation with the plaintiff's

lawsuit may have been." The ruling could prove costly to the President, making him liable for thousands of dollars in costs and jeopardising

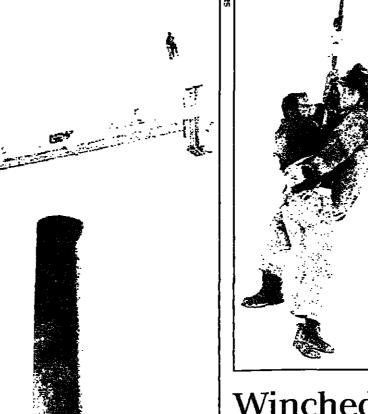
lawyer. In the first instance, Mr Clinton must pay the judge's and any legal costs incurred by

ton's "wilful failure" to obey her moved back to Arkansas after agreeing an \$850,000 (£530,000) settlement with Mr Clinton, is how much she owes them. The long-running case grew out of her accusation that Mr Clinton propositioned her for oral sex in 1991 when he was Arkansas state governor and she was a

> While the judge eventually dismissed the case for lack of evidence of sexual harassment, this was before Ms Lewinsky testified to the existence of a relationship, and Ms Jones was contemplating an appeal at the time of the settlement.

Mr Clinton is already deep in debt as a result of legal costs incurred in this and the Lewinsky case, and can ill afford more expense. If the state of Arkansas decided to cancel his licence to practise law, he would be additionally penalised, as this would not only deprive him of a possible source of income after he leaves office, but add a mark of personal disgrace.

The President's lawyers were reported to be considering an appeal, but an early legal and political consensus appeared to be forming that he should accept the verdict rather than risk keeping the Jones case-and his own legal entanglements - in the his licence to practise as a public eye.



# Winched to safety from the flames

A CONSTRUCTION worker trapped on top of a swaying, 250ft-high crane above a raging fire (left) for more than an hour was rescued by a firefighter who dangled perilously from a helicopter cable.

The fire broke out at an old mill in Atlanta, Georgia, on Monday. The flames were licking at the cable as Matt Mosely, the firefighter, climbed on to the crane and scrambled to the end of the arm, where Ivor Sims was waiting.

Mosely strapped Sims into a harness (above) and both were lowered to the ground. Sims walked to a stretcher, and spectators applauded as he was wheeled to an ambulance. He was in a stable condition yesterday suffering from smoke inhalation and heat exposure.

Larry Rogers, who was in the helicopter to guide the pilot and the cable, said the flames were intensely hot even 80ft

# Beavers captured in **Battle of Potomac**

AMERICAN TIMES

WASHINGTON

COMMUNING WITH nature American-style can entail extraordinarily complicated preparation. The higher up the income scale you go, the more special clothing and equip-ment you are deemed to need, supplied with outdoorsy overenthusiasm by the vast emtrack from the country's most venerated outdoors shop, L L Bean. These trendiest of purveyors delight in kitting you out as if to explore the Amazon, when what you had in mind was nothing more strenuous than a spot of birdwatching in the Virginia woods.

Increasingly, though, you seem not to have to go as far as Virginia in pursuit of the American wilds - and you certainly don't need that extra-light, all-weather jacket and matching magenta wet-suit. I have seen more deer on the verges of the Washington suburbs from the comfort of my car than I ever encountered in the countryside.

Wildlife is encroaching even on New York. Just a week or so ago, a wandering coyote was apprehended in Central Park it was shot (with an anaesthetising dart, the police hastened to add), and caged for dispatch to a more conventional habitat "up-state". In Washington last week, a red-tailed hawk made news by swooping on to the White House lawn to feast on a presidential duck. Public sympathy for the savagely dissected duck, however, was muted by the relative rarity of the hawk: live and let die, said Washington coolly, as it girded for war across the ocean.

of year And while hawks and ducks and deer may be two a penny in the capital, it is not every day you see a beaver

So it was with shocked incredulity that the park service admitted last week that four poriums that have beaten the of the sacred cherries had been cruelly felled. Smashed to the ground, heavy with pink blossom, they looked like ravished May queens, and the city was out for vengeance. With the most celebrated chopper of cherry trees, George Washington, long gone, suspicion alignted on

two enemies of the moment:

the American dream'

ther had been much in evi-

Expert examination, how-

ever, turned up not axe marks,

but tooth marks. The culprit

was a beaver. Whereupon

everything changed. In

Beaver v Cherry Trees, this

city of lawyers was split even-

ly. It was "save our beavers"

against "save our trees" -

tal merit, but fundamentally in-

dence before then.

That, however, was before the beavers. To understand the fuss about the beavers, you need to know two things. Washington does not have many sources of civic pride, but it affects a communal swoon over the hundreds of Japanese cherry trees that

bloom along the tidal basin of Service had the unenviable the Potomac River at this time task of "doing something". It set off "slow and easy" (its words) on a twin-track policy of prevention. Vulnerable trees were encased in netting, and a \$1,500 (£940) contract was put out on the beaver, the trappers

were called in. On night two of their patrol, spectacular success: they had their beaver - alive. But before they could claim their bounty, word came from a chastened park service: "We believe there are now two beavers. We have had sightings." On Saturday night, moonlit blossom-strollers (their ranks now swelled with beaver-watchers and television crews) witnessed the capture of a second "furry critter" or "tree murderer" (de pending on your point of view). By Monday, though, there was talk of a third beaver, perhaps a whole family.

By now, the park serviceits phone lines jammed by callers appealing for the beavers to be spared - was having to watch its language With a real war never far away, any hint of deportation, still less species-cleansing, was off-limits. Everyone did their best.

The traps were the most humane on the market; a Pennsylvania couple offered The beaver: Follower of the vacant pond on their estate, but the park service said that as celebrities, the beavers anti-war protesters and - perdeserved to have their new adish the thought - disgruntled Serbs. Small matter that neidress kept private.

One woman even described the beaver as a "true follower of the American Dream. He should be allowed to build again," she wrote to The Washington Post, "revel in his success and be proud of the beaver that he can become; because this is America." To which there is surely only one response: "Bravo! causes equal in environmen- Bravo! God bless the Beaver and God bless America!" MARY DEJEVSKY



The Independent/Independent on Sunday have joined forces with SeaFrance European Life to offer you excellent discounts on holidays to Champagne. From just £49 per person you can take a break in the heart of the Champagne region, inclusive of return ferry crossing, two nights' accommodation and a complimentary bottle of champagne on your arrival.

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Troyes

Reims

Epernay



# BASED ON 4 IN A CAR - OCCUPYING 2 ROOMS Destination and hotel name Eperna

#### Epernay, Le Thibault IV Situated 20km south of Eper-

nay on the Champagne Route in the heart of the Champagne region, Le Thibault offers a good standard of accommodation, with reasonably sized rooms and en suite bathrooms. The hotel's restaurant is well known across the Champagne area, serving both

gastronomic menus and champagne dinners. The hotel can arrange a free visit to local wine-cellars and, although this does not include wine-tasting, we're sure that it will be an insight into the Champagne world!

# Troyes, Forêt d'Orient

Beautiful natural setting, in the heart of the Champagne region, between two lakes for water sports and on an 18hole golf course, 15km from 💆 medieval Troyes and 100km from the Epernay champagne cellars. Relax around the heated pool, enjoy a

ಾ

round of golf or archery (both playable locally), or exercise in the free fitness room. The generous-sized rooms offer satellite TV, telephone and lovely bathrooms with separate w.c. The restaurant has a poolside terrace offering good-value menus. Family rooms available.

# Epernay, Hostellerie de la Reine Blanche

The village of Vertus lies 20km south of Epernay on the Champagne Route in the heart of the Champagne region. The charm and warmth offered by the Hostellerie de la Reine Blanche is quite typical of the hotels in this region. The hotel has a swimming-pool, sauna and fitness room and the bed-

rooms are large and sumptuously decorated, with en suite bath rooms. The Hostellerie also boasts wine-cellars holding vintages dating back to 1929 to accompany its restaurant's fine gastronomic cuisine.

#### Reims, L'Assiette Champenoise \*\*\*\*

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free use of the sauna. A gastronomic experience at the popular restaurant is certainly not to be missed. All bedrooms have satellite TV and mini-bar. Buffet breakfast and private outdoor

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| Troyes      | Forêt d'Orient       | 79    | 28     | 89    | . <u> </u> | 99    | 23.<br>21  | 69    | 28    |
| Epernay     | La Reine Blanche     | 89    | 37.    | : 99  | 38         | 109   | <i>3</i> 1 | 69    | .29   |
| Reims       | Assiette Champenoise | 99    | 38     | 109   | 42         | 119   | 40<br>44   | 99    | 38    |
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| SeaFrance Euro    | opean Life, 10 Kerry Street, Leeds, LS  | 18 4AW                                  |             |          | •       |             | ¥THE [   | NDEPEN     | DENT       | J   |
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April 1999, 2. Supplement £10 per person for travel 30 April 1999 to 4 May 1999 and for travel at week-ends (Friday - Sunday) between 28 May 1999 and 25 September 1999. 3. Alternative hotels may be offered at time of booking, subject to availability. 4. This offer may not be used in conjunction with any other pro-motion. 5. No photocopied tokens 6. Promoter: SeaFrance European Life.

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PURCES

MIEY MARKET RATES

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Service had the unemp task of doing something set of -sion and easy Moros: on a twin-last fe of busing our Amperage by Meta eccesed in being and of first strains and an arrangement of first strains and arrangement of first strains are also str ES1.590 (2010) contact and out on the beaver the bappy

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a whole ramily. By now the park service its phone lines jammed | callers appealing for the beavers to be spared - to having to watch its language With a real war never by away any hint of deportation ess species-cleaning was off limits. Everyone & their best

The traps were the man humane on the market Pennsylvania couple offered the recent pond on their e tate, but the park services that is celebrates, the bearn Construction have their new all corus a kept provate. Time woman even describe

tine One" on as a name folioer of the American Dream & should be allowed to be and wrote to Te en un der geben. Post, merel si has success and be proude! the pearer that he can be them because this is Ameral cui. To which there is suris wally one response firm Bray - God pless the Berry and God pless America" MARY DEJERSE



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THE INDEPENDENT

Business & City Editor, Jeremy Warner News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098

# BUSINESS

# **BRIEFING**

#### Roaring start for ISAs at Halifax

HALIFAX, the mortgage bank, vesterday reported that more than a quarter of a million people had taken out Individual Savings Accounts since their launch just a week ago. More than 100,000 customers had opened new cash ISAs during the week. A further 150,000 rolled over their PEP accounts into ISAs designed for stocks and shares.

#### Scapa to return £120m to investors



SCAPA, the Blackburnbased group, intends to return £120m, or about 50p a share, to shareholders after selling its papermaking products division to Voith of Germany for £329m yesterday.

Last year the businesses sold made operating profits of £45m on sales of £263m, roughly half the entire company's business, but the market is increasingly

competitive. Scapa, headed by chief executive David Dunn (pictured), will focus on its technical tapes and fastenings business, where margins have been lower but prospects are brighter. It made an operating profit of £10.1m on turnover of £92m in the six months to last September. The shares leapt 27p to 144p.

#### Johnston raises Portsmouth stake

JOHNSTON PRESS, the regional newspaper publisher. yesterday snapped up another 2.36 per cent of Portsmouth & Sunderland, taking its shareholding in the publishing and convenience store group to 17.35 per cent. Johnston paid 1.750p each for the shares, compared to the price of 1,600p it paid in January when it took a 14.99 per cent

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is investigating whether to allow Johnston, and its rivals Newsquest and News Communications & Media, to mount a full takeover bid for P&S. However, P&S last night retorted that 1,750p undervalues the company and advised shareholders to take no action.

| FTSE 100 | DOW JONES     | NIKKEI        |
|----------|---------------|---------------|
| 50       | 10600         | 17000         |
| 00       | 10400         | 16800         |
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|------------------|-----------|---------|--------|--------------|---------------|--------|
|                  |           | INDI    | CES    |              |               |        |
| Index            | Close     | Grade G | mg+(%) | 52 wik bligh | 52 wk low Y)  |        |
| EFTSE 100        | 6513.10   | 71,90   | 1.12   | 6512.10      | 4599.20       | 2.40   |
| FTSE 250         | 5592.40   | 33.50   | 0,60   | 5970.90      | 4247.60       | 3.13   |
| FTSE 350         | 3088.50   | 31.80   | 1,04   | 3084.40      | 2210,40       | 2.51   |
| FTSE Atl Share   | 2986.26   | 29.90   | 1,01   | 2982.22      | 2143.53       | 2.55   |
| FTSE SmallCap    | 2428.60   | 10.70   | 0.44   | 2793.80      | 1834.40       | 3.49   |
| FISE Fledgling   | 1379.30   | 1.80    | 0.14   | 1517.10      | 1046.20       | 3.87   |
| FTSE AIM         | 889.80    | 8.40    | 0.95   | 1146.90      | 761.30        | 1.14   |
| FTSE Eurotop-10  | 3035.38   | 39.04   | 1,30   | 3079.27      | 2018.15       | 1,91   |
| FTSE Eurokop 300 | 0 1306.15 | 16.52   | 1,28   | 1332.07      | 880.63        | 1.84   |
| Dow Jones        | 10346.44  | 13.59   | 0.13   | 10340.62     | 7400.30       | 1.53   |
| Nikkei 4         | 16715.16  | 207.76  | 1,26   | 17166.06     | 12787.90      | 0.76   |
| Hang Seng        | 11899.69  | 154.95  | 1,32   | 11919.83     | 6544.79       | 2.98   |
| Dax              | 5199.18   | 40.02   | 0.78   | 6217.83      | 3833.71       | 1.57   |
| S&P 500          | 1348.43   | -10.79  | -0.79  | 1358.69      | 923.32        | 1.19   |
| Nasdan           | 2582.94   | -19.90  | -0,77  | 2606.24      | 1357.09       | 0.28   |
| Toronto 300      | 6933.50   | 11.32   | 0.16   | 7837.70      | 5320.90       | 1.51   |
| Brazil Bovespa   | 11214.04  | -196,61 | -1.72  | 12339.14     | 4575.69       | 3.14   |
| Belglum Bel20    | 3327.75   | 4.16    | 0.13   | 3713.21      | 2696.26       | 1.98   |
| Amsterdam Exch   | 540.99    | 4.82    | 0.90   | 600.65       | 366.58        | 1.65   |
| France CAC 40    | 4367.41   | 12.41   | 0.29   | 4416.00      | 2881.21       | 1.66   |
| Milan MB30       | 36995.00  | 288.00  | 0.79   | 39170.00     | 24175.00      | 1.04   |
| Madrid Ibex 35   | 10120.80  | 81.60   | 0.81   | 10989.80     | 6869.90       | 1.66   |
| irish Overali    | - 5437.91 | 86.22   | 1.61   | 5581.70      | 3732,57       | 1.52   |
| S Korea Comp     | 689.80    | 0.15    | 0.02   | 700.44       | 277.37        | 1.00   |
| Australia ASX    | 3076.30   | 38.10   | 1,25   | 3073.50      | 2386.70       | 3.02   |
|                  |           |         |        |              |               |        |

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|                                    | 5.50        |
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| MC      | NEY N    | MARK   |        |        | YIELD:  |               |           |        |  |
|---------|----------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------------|-----------|--------|--|
| index.  | '3 month | Tr chg | 1 Year | Yr chg | 10 year | Yr chg        | Long bood | Yr chg |  |
| UK      | 5.32     | -2.23  | 5.32   | -2.22  | 4,43    | -1.3 <u>2</u> | 4.43      | -1.24  |  |
| US .    | 5.00     | -0.66  | 5.21   | -0.57  | 5.10    | 0,55          | 5.48      | 0.44   |  |
| Japan   | 0.16     | -0.52  | 0.23   | -0.47  | 1.60    | -0.26         | 2.35      | -0.14  |  |
| Germany | 2.65     | -0.98  | 2.72   | -1,20  | 3.83    | -1.02         | 4.80      | -0.60  |  |

| CURRENCIES    |                 |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| \$/€          | €/£             | ¥/E           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| .610          | 1,490           | 195           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 500           | 1.480           | 193           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 590 W T F M T | 1 470 W T F M T | 192 W T F M T |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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|          | at Spm | Change | Yr Ago |          | at Spen | Change    | "Tr Ago     |
| ollar    | 1.6145 | +0.08c | 1.6569 | Sterling | 0.6194  | -0.03p    | 0.5999      |
| uro.     | 1.4976 | +0.89c | 1,4079 | Euro     | 0.9278  | -15.60c   | 0.8571      |
| en       | 193.65 | -40.15 | 216.08 | Yen      | 119,91  | -¥0.19    | 129.63      |
| index    | 102.70 | +0,00  | 107.30 | \$ Index | 108.20  | +0.00     | 109,30      |

| OTHER INDICATORS |          |      |        |     |        |      |        |           |  |
|------------------|----------|------|--------|-----|--------|------|--------|-----------|--|
|                  | Close    | Ġţ   | Yr Ago |     | Jades  | Chig | Yr ago | Heat figs |  |
| Brent Oil (      | S) 14.99 | 0.63 | 13.05  | GDP | 115.40 | 3.00 | 112.04 | Mar       |  |
|                  | 283.55   |      |        | RPI | 163.70 | 2.10 | 160.33 | Mar_      |  |

6.41 Base Rates 5.25 7.25

| w.bloomberg.com/uk | SOURCE: BLOOMB |   |
|--------------------|----------------|---|
| ·                  |                | ١ |
| TOURIST            | T RATES        |   |

|                   |          | _                         |                |
|-------------------|----------|---------------------------|----------------|
| ustralia (\$)     | 2.4544   | Mexican (nuevo peso)      | 13.            |
| ustria (schilling | s) 19,92 | Netherlands (guilders)    | 3,1 <u>9</u> ; |
| elgium (francs)   |          | New Zealand (5)           | 2.86           |
| anada (\$)        | 2.3465   | Norway (kroner)           | 12.            |
| yprus (pounds)    | 0.8368   | Portugal (escudos)        | 289.           |
|                   |          | Saudi Arabia (rials)      | 5.88           |
| enmark (kroner    |          | Singapore (\$)            | 2.63           |
| nland (markka)    |          | South Africa (rands)      | 9.570          |
| Rance (francs)    | 9,5069   | Spain (pesetas)           | 240,           |
| ermany (marks)    |          | Sweden (kronor)           | 13.0           |
| reece (drachma    |          | Sweden (Monor)            | 2.33           |
| ong Kong (S)      | 12.13    | Switzerland (francs)      | 55.            |
| eland (punts)     | 1.1402   | Thalland (bahts)          | 5880           |
| dian (rupees)     | 62.00    | Turkey (firasi)           | 1.57           |
| rael (shekels)    | 6.0100   | USA (\$)                  | 1.57           |
| aly (fira)        | 2821     |                           |                |
| Dan Joseph        | 190 59   | Rates for indication purp | 0562           |

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# RBS poised to renew offer of merger with Barclays

ROYAL BANK of Scotland was BY ANDREW GARFIELD last night standing by to renew its offer of an agreed merger deal with Barclays Bank, the high street financial giant which has been left rudderless by the shock decision yesterday of its new chief executive Mike O'Neill to retire on health

The Scottish bank had agreed to meet senior Barclays executives to discuss a possible merger back in February, only for the meeting to be cancelled at the last minute after Mr O'Neill had

agreed to join the group. The RBS chief executive. Sir George Mathewson, is now

Financial Editor

overtures in the light of yesterday's developments.

The prospect of a bank mega-merger helped drive the FTSE 100 up more than 70 points to a record high of grounds on his first day in the

> have both risen by 40 per cent so far this year - rose sharoly again yesterday, putting on 62p to £14.25 and 46p to £19.99 respectively as merger speculation took hold RBS is believed to have iden-

tified potential cost savings of £200m from a merger with Barclays, in addition to the beneunderstood to be planning fresh fits it would bring to the bank

by providing an instant solution to its leadership crisis. The bank has a tried and respected senior management team headed by Sir George and Fred Goodwin, the deputy chief ex-

year from National Australia One investment banker said RBS and Barclays - which yesterday: "Mathewson and Fred Goodwin, his deputy, are

an impressive team. Because of the disparity in size, the deal would have to be structured as a reverse takeover by RBS of Barclays, with Edinburgh being given at least a symbolic role as group headquarters in order to pacify Scottish public opinion in the run up to the first Scottish

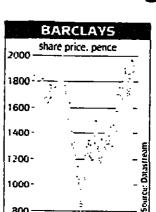
assembly elections. RBS has a market capitalisation of £12bn against £20bn for Barclays.

Sir Peter Middleton, Barclays' acting chief executive, insisted yesterday that the bank ecutive who joined RBS last would not be panicked into a merger, but neither would it reject reasonable propositions out of hand.

> "We've demonstrated that we can push the business forward with the divisional heads," he said.

The bank was confident that having done much of the spadework already, the headhunters Spencer Stuart would be able to come up with alternative candidates within a reasonable

However, investment bank-



ers warned that given the current merger frenzy in Europe and the growing likelihood of fore long, institutional investors bitten by the merger bug may not have the patience to sit tight and wait for the search for a new chief executive to bear

One financier said last night: "They have seen what has happened to bank share prices abroad where mergers have taken place. We have been waiting over a year for a merger in the UK banking sector and nothing has happened. Earnings are steady but not spectacular. business is flat; the market is looking for something else to take the FTSE on. This might be the gap everyone has been looking for.

Outlook, page 17

Terry Leahy, Tesco chief executive, at its store in Brent Cross, London, yesterday

## Keith Dobney

# Tesco expands home shopping

TESCO IS planning to roll out its BY PETER THAL LARSEN home shopping service in stores across the country over the next few months, as the supermarket group attempts to cash in on the success of its free Internet service.

Tesco will offer the service. which allows customers to order their shopping online and have it delivered to their homes for a £5 fee, from 100 of its stores, enabling it to reach most of the country.

The move comes after a two-year trial of the service involving I1 stores, during which Tesco experimented with allowing customers to order by phone and fax. However, it has concluded that costs will be kept as their Internet provider, with

down if customers only order via the Internet.

\*Clearly customers want the service," said Andrew Higginson, Tesco's finance director. "But you have to be red-hot on accuracy and quality if it's going to work." Tesco expects the service to

expand its customer base by tempting shoppers who cannot travel or who live too far away from a supermarket. The offer is also likely to apneal to users of Tesco's free In-

ternet service, which was launched earlier this year. More than 200,000 people use Tesco

Tesco said the home shop-

ping service would create an extra 1.500 jobs in the UK as part of a total of 10.000 that Tesco expects to create this year by extending existing stores and opening new ones. The company is also adding another 10,000 jobs to its operations in central Europe.

Thailand and South Korea. The move came as Tesco shook off the gloom in the supermarket sector to report a 7.8 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £881m for the year to the end of February.

The rise was achieved despite last year's price-cutting

a further 10,000 joining each campaign, which would have reduced profits by £40m. This was followed in February by another round of price cuts that will cost Tesco £60m on an annualised basis.

Tesco said like-for-like sales growth of 4 per cent was due to a 2.5 per cent increase in sales volumes and a 1.5 per cent rise in prices, the result of higher taxes on tobacco and petrol.

Terry Leahey, Tesco's chief executive, said 1998 was a "challenging" year for the industry despite the recent conclusion by John Bridgeman, the director general of the OFT, to refer the supermarket industry to the Competition Com-

# One2One slashes its call rates

network currently up for sale, yesterday tried to claw back some of the ground it has lost to its rivals in the competitive mobile phone market by slashing its call rates.

From the end of April, One2One will charge just 10p a minute for daytime calls and 2p a minute for evening and weekend calls. The tariffs, which apply regardless of whether calls are local or national, mean that at some points of the day using One2One will be cheaper than using a British Telecom fixed-line phone.

Tim Samples, managing director, said the simplicity of the new tariffs would appeal to customers. who often complained that mobile phone prices are too

confusing.

He added that the tariffs would also encourage people to give up their fixed-line phones. We connect 110 million calls a week and have ample opportunity for more," he said. "The average household uses their BT line for 700 minutes a month. I want some of that."

One2One is the smallest of the UK's four mobile phone operators with a 15 per cent share of the market. In recent months the network has lost ground as Cellnet and Vodafone signed up millions of new customers with their popular "payas-you-go" services.

Mr Samples said the new rates would also be made available to users of One2One's own pay-as-you-go service, Up2You, who currently pay 40p a minute for calls. However, in order to take advantage of the rates.

ONE2ONE, the mobile phone BY PETER THAL LARSEN

users will also have to pay a tariff of at least 50p a day.

Mr Samples justified the change by arguing that it was important to encourage customers to use their phones. "This is not just about seeing who can connect the most cus tomers." he said.

Industry analysts yesterday played down suggestions that the mobile phone market was about to be plunged into a price war "One2One had been losing market share and this allows them to take the initiative,' said Justinian Clifford-Bowles a telecoms analyst at Commerzbank "But it certainly

isn't a revolution." Other operators were also dismissive, stressing that network quality was just as important to new customers. "One2One has to be careful that neople don't end up thinking they are cheap for a reason,

said one. A recent survey by Oftel, the telecoms watchdog, identified One2One as one of the least reliable networks, although the company claims its own surveys put it ahead of its rivals in

terms of reliability. Mr Samples said he expected average revenues per customer to remain stable as users increase usage in response to the tariff cuts. Contract customers now spend £480 a year, while pre-pay customers spend

more than £200. Analysts value the company, expected to report earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation of £100m this year, at £7bn to £11bn.

# Laporte's £1.5bn deal founders on Hoechst veto

LAPORTE, the UK fine chemicals group, was yesterday forced to scrap plans for a £1.5bn takeover by the chemical giant Clariant after strong opposition from Hoechst, the Swiss group's largest shareholder. The British group baffled the

City when it said that talks with

a potential bidder had ended,

less than 24 hours after admit-

ting it was discussing an offer.

The collapse sent Laporte

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

shares crashing 12.5 per cent to

Sources close to the deal said the embarrassing U-turn was prompted by Hoechst's lastminute opposition. The German chemicals and pharmaceutical group, which holds 45 per cent of Clariant, is believed to have vetoed the deal at a meeting with the two companies on Monday

night. The German company was concerned that a Clariant-Laporte deal might jeopardise its own merger with Rhone-Poulenc of France. Hoechst needs to seil its chemical businesses. including its stake in Clariant, before merging with Rhone-Poulenc, and was worried that corporate action by Clariant might delay the process. Industry sources said

Hoechst could also have hesi- not about price, nor manage-

tated at the prospect of financing part of the Laporte deal as Clariant was likely to add to its \$1.9bn (£1.2bn) debt to fund the takeover "It was a done deal, they

went for agreement from Hoechst and they were refused," one insider said. Another source said the deal cleared all relevant hurdles before foundering on

due diligence or competition issues," he said. Analysts said the collapse of

the takeover was a huge embarrassment both for Clariant and Laporte's chief executive, Jim Leng. They said the demise of the deal would prompt other chemicals groups to bid for the UK company. "Laporte is in Hoechst's concerns. "This is play now. The fact that they were willing to agree a takeover Speciality Chemicals.

ment, personalities, strategy, means they are now up for sale," said one analyst.

Industry experts said the US group PPG and some European players, including Viag and Degussa-Hels of Germany, could enter the fray.

This is the second setback in four months for Clariant's expansion plans. Last year the group dropped plans for a \$8.1bn

# AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

FOOTSIE POUNDED to yet another peak. The index ended just below its day's best, up 71.9 points to 6,513.1 - its first close above 6,500. Supporting indices were also strong. Turnover again topped 1.1 billion shares. Tesco, on results, led the Footsie leader board with a 9.75p gain to 169.25p, with Amvescap, the US fund manager, not - in percentage terms - far behind with a 38p gain to 670.5p. Barclays, on the brief reign of chief executive Michael O'Neill, rose 46p

Derek Pain, page 19

NEW YORK

US STOCKS were treading water at midday, paring gains amid jitters over Intel earnings – due out after the market closed - and the Kosovo crisis. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was off 2 points, or 0.02 per cent. at 10,312, having been as much as 79 points higher earlier in the day. Technology stocks bore the

brunt of the jitters over the

computer chip manufacturer

Intel, and the Nasdaq was down

announcement from the

18 points at 2,581.

TOKYO

TOKYO STOCKS finished the day modestly higher, with Monday's rise on Wall Street tempering lears of a sharp correction in stock

But investors remained wary ahead of an earnings announcement from the US computer chip giant Intel, made after the New York stock market closed last night.

The Nikkei index closed up 207.76 points - or 1.26 per cent - at 16,715.16, while Nikkei futures closed up 180 at 16,740.

## **HONG KONG**

WALL STREET'S record Monday close pushed Hong Kong stocks to their highest levels in almost 18 months. The Hang Seng index closed 154.95 points higher at 11,899.69, having earlier hit an intra-day high of 11,956.43.

Howard Gorges, a director at South China Brokerage, said: "The blue-chips are doing well and there is interest in secondline counters and companies announcing corporate news." Dealers said further gains were likely to be capped at 12,000.

THE PARIS bourse set its second consecutive closing record for 1999. despite fears that the conflict in the Balkans will escalate.

The Cac-40 hit an intra-day high of 4,410.27, but tumbled by almost 100 points following reports that Serb troops had crossed into Albania. The index eventually closed up 0.28 per cent at 4,367.41.

One dealer said: "We saw a knee-jerk reaction to the news of the Serbs in Albania, and from now on the action there will bring increasing pressure on sentiment

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INVESTMENT – EVERY WEDNESDAY **BUSINESS REVIEW** 

YOUR MONEY - EVERY SATURDAY

MONEY - EVERY SUNDAY WITH BUSINESS

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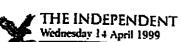
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مكدا من الاص



# RBS merger may be best for Barclays

صكرا من الأمل

IS BARCLAYS just accident prone. or is there something seriously wrong? The stock market took one look at the bank's latest embarrassing setback - the failure of its new chief executive to spend any more than a couple of nours in the job - and decided that probably, on balance, it didn't really matter. If the vawning management gap now apparent at the top of Barclays helps shift the log jam over banking consolidation in Britain, it might actually be rather good news, the stock market figured.

Since a merger with National Westminster Bank, or any other "English" clearer, is almost bound to be ruled out on competition grounds, the only obvious candidates would be the two Scottish banks, of which Royal Bank of Scotland must be the front runner. With a market capitalisation of little more than half that of Barclays, any such proposal would essentially have to be framed as a management buy-in, or reverse takeover. Demoralised, bemused and out to hinch though what is left of the Barclays board might be, is this something it could reasonably contemplate?



#### OUTLOOK

Royal Bank of Scotland's chief executive, is ambitious and accomplished enough to pull it off. The cost savings to be had from such a combination would plainly not be as dramatic as with an English clearer, but in retail banking and corporate lending they might still add up to several hundred million annually. Furthermore, it would provide some kind of a solution to the problem of who to lead Barclays into the next millennium.

Barclays' chances of attracting another top notch banker from the US like Mike O'Neill would seem to be slim. Even if one were available for hire at short notice, nobody likes Certainly Sir George Mathewson. being second choice, and in any

tion packages that would make end up achieving his aim afterall. any such acquisition prohibitively expensive. Executives of Mike O'Neill's ability who are also prepared to do the job at a reasonable rate, are in short supply.

Sir George would undoubtedly have been on Barclays' original shopping list for the job, but there would be no good reason for Sir George, at this relatively late stage in his career, to ditch his Edinburgh power base for the snakepit of London. If he could bring it with him, however, that might be a different

The only probable alternative to Barclays' management problems would appear to be an internally groomed candidate, but even if there is someone of sufficient calibre waiting in the wings, this solution is unlikely to be as pleasing to the City as a fully fledged merg-

Martin Taylor, the previous chief executive, always believed a further big consolidation of British banking inevitable, and during his time at Barclays he made several failed attempts to bring it about. It's ironic, but by walking out in the way he

case, nearly everyone who's any did and prompting the present vac failing small business and failing good is locked into US remunera- uum in leadership, Mr Taylor may

#### Banking review

IF THE Office of Fair Trading could find no good reason for investigating the banks, what chance does Don Cruickshank have of discovering anything seriously untoward, still less of coming up with any practical remedies. The luckless Mr Cruichshank, whose other day job is trying to persuade business to prepare for the millennium bug. was heeled out yesterday to give an "update" on his Treasury inspired review of British banks - and very little he

had to say about it too. The OFT, it seems, was not convinced there was sufficient prima facie evidence of anti-competitive behaviour to merit a competition inquiry. John Bridgeman, felt uncomfortable enough ordering a Competition Authority probe of the supermarkets. With the banks, he put his foot down.

Which is how the whole thing ended up with Mr Cruickshank. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, is convinced that the banking system is

the British economy, and he's determined to prove it. But if this investigation is not really about competition, what is it about? The line from the Treasury is that banking is an immensely important part of the economy - which is true enough - and, as such, it is vitally important to make sure that the sector works as efficiently as possible.

While this is a laudable enough objective, it is not obvious that Mr Cruickshank's review - which is starting to look in danger of descending into the type of theoretical mumbo jumbo that dogged the OFT supermarkets probe - is the most sensible way of going about things. For the time being, he's merely contributing to the banks' supposed inefficiency by taking up so much of

None of this is to say that fostering competition is unimportant or that Britain's banks (or Britain's supermarkets: couldn't do a lot to improve customer service and cut charges. But as dull and as boring as it may sound, the best thing that the Treasury can do to give the fat and lazy parts of the UK economy a wake-up call is to get the macro-economy on

Stamping on flagrant competi- in the way our pensions are invested. tion abuses and ensuring that public policy does not distort entrepreneurial incentives obvious-

ly require government attention. The seemingly endless reviews and consultations, the convoluted theoretical studies that this government appears so prone to are probably harmless enough in themgoing to shed much light on the darkness. When it comes to encouraging business, any number of well intentioned reviews is no substitute for getting the macro-economy right, cutting red tape, and reducing corporate taxes.

#### Loony indices

HERE'S A fascinating and somewhat disturbing fact. The value of the combined holding of UK pension funds in BP Amoco is more than their entire investment in the US stock market. Both of these things are shocking - first that their exposure to a single company could be so large and second that their participation in the greatest bull market of all time could have been so small. And both track and let the market do the rest. rather point to the need for reform indices.

Pension fund trustees, probably more than any other kind of in-

vestor, are particularly prone to the tyranny of the benchmarks - rightly so in some respects given that they have a duty to ensure their pensioners' money keeps up with the market. But it also leads to some odd distortions and a tendency to invest selves, but it seems unlikely they are disproportionately in UK domiciled companies. In today's increasingly global economy, this is a silly and outdated approach to investment.

At root, however, this is caused not by the stupidity of pension trustees, but by the madness of the indices. The index we all watch, the FTSE 100, is not really representative of anything any longer. A mix of pure UK plays and large multi nationals that have more in common with the constituents of the Dow Jones Industrial Average than the great bulk of British companies, it ought to be consigned to the dustbin of history.

There is an urgent need for new indices against which investors can benchmark themselves - an index of global companies that includes foreign as well as British concerns, and much better thought out national

# Scope of banking inquiry is widened

DON CRUICKSHANK, the former By LEA PATERSON director-general of Oftel, yesterday widened the scope of his inquiry into the banking sector and rejected calls from banks to exclude large parts of their business from the review.

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Consumer concerns - such as the transparency of banking charges - will now be included in Mr Cruickshank's inquiry, initiated last November by the Chancellor of the Exchequer Mr Cruickshank, who yesterday relessed a progress report, said he all intended to study the impact of electronic money on

banking competition. Mr Cruickshank said: "The rapidly expanding use of emoney offers a great opportunity for increasing competition, particularly in money transmis-

sion services. It would be a pity if this opportunity were lost." The former Oftel leader asked to look into the sector after the Office of Fair Trading told the Treasury there was insufficient evidence of anti-competitive behaviour to merit a competition inquiry - said he had rejected

calls to exclude business banking from the probe. Responses to January's consultation document revealed that neither banks nor most of their customers believed there were problems in the supply of credit to small and medium enterprises (SMEs). However, Mr Cruickshank said he remained unconvinced that the

issue of SME credit was prob-

lem-free. He said previous experience had taught him that customers in markets "where there may be no real choice" may find it hard to tell whether or not they receive good service.

So-called "merchant acquiring" - credit and debit-card acceptance in retail outlets - will be a key part of Mr Cruickshank's inquiry, as will a detailed study of banking profitability. 'You can't come to a competition conclusion without understanding prices and profitability," Mr Cruickshank said.

The inquiry is at the "data collection phase", and Mr Cruickshank said he hoped to begin forming preliminary conclusions in the autumn before publishing the report in the winter



Outlook, above Cruickshank: Inquiry will cover banks' profitability

# Three more directors quit CSG

THE BID by Michael Ashcroft, the Conservative Party treasurer, for recruitment firm Corporate Services Group took another twist yesterday as three directors caved in to share-

holder pressure and resigned. The departures of nonexecutives Ronald de Young and Tim Holland-Bosworth and acting chairman Ralph Hulbert follow last week's resignation of chairman Jeffrey Fowler. They could scupper the £282m bid by New Carlisle, a service compa-

By Francesco Guerrera

ny controlled by Mr Ashcroft. Under the terms of the complex offer, the entrepreneur has the right to walk away if the composition of the board changes. New Carlisle said yesterday its advisers were in talks with the

Takeover Panel over whether its offer should be withdrawn. The resignations are anoth-

around 31 per cent of CSG, were also boosted yesterday when the company agreed to call an extraordinary meeting to vote on their candidates for the board positions. They claim to have the required 50 per cent majority to install Michael Davies, National Express chairman, Gilles Avenel, finance director of inshareholders who want to surer Sun Life & Provincial,

and Peter Button as directors.

to CSG's abysmal performance.

Mercury Asset Management, M&G and Schroders, which own

COMPANY RESULTS

er concession to three key CSG

replace the board to put an end

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| Name                         | Turnover (2)               | Pre-tax (£)              | EP\$                  | Dividend      | Pay day | X-div |  |
| Automotive Precision Heigs   | (F) 26.24m (26.7m)         | 0 320m (2.458m)          | 0 Sp (4.3p)           | 0 6p (2 1p)   | -       | -     |  |
| Peter Black Holdings (F)     | 195 19m (173 8m)           | * 21.7m (-)              | 23.61p (21 39p)       | 3.25p (-I     |         | -     |  |
| Cirqual (1)                  | 23.67m (23.91m)            | 4 01m (5.01 n)           | 9.88p (12.01p)        | 4.10p (4 10p) | -       | -     |  |
| Glencar Mining (F)           | - (-)                      | US -2.786m (0 148m)      | -4.29c (0.21c)        | - (-)         |         |       |  |
| Pressac (I)                  | 93m (56.24m)               | 4.99m (4.49m)            | 3 71p (4.52p)         | 1.14p (1.06p) |         |       |  |
| Rugby Estates (SP)           | 9.52m (29 73m)             | 8.2m (3.79m)             | 30.7p (13.8p)         | 2.91p (2.85p) | -       | -     |  |
| Jefferson Swerft Group (F)   | IR 2 888bn (2 57bn)        | 171.02m (150.18m)        | 2.4p (9.8p)           | 4.79p (4.62p) |         | -     |  |
| Tesco (F)                    | 18.5bn (17 447bn)          | 842m (745m)              | 9.14p (7.97p)         | 4.13p (3.87p) |         | -     |  |
| Torday & Carlisia (F)        | 19 76m (19.82m)            | 1 34m (1.37m)            | 3.8p (6.2p)           | Q.5p (-)      | -       | -     |  |
| Xpertise Group (8 months)    | -0 084m (-)                | -0.031m (-)              | -0.45p (-)            | त्या (-)      | -       | -     |  |
| (F) - Final (I) - Interim (C | ii - Quarteny (SP) - Spiti | Period (N) - Nine Months | * Betore Exceptionals |               |         |       |  |

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Recommended offer by Apax Partners & Co. Capital Limited on behalf of Novaside Limited for Avonside Group PLC

Apax Partners & Co. Capital Limited ("Apax Partners") announces on behalf of Novaside Limited ("Novaside") that by means of a formal offer document dated and posted on 9 April 1999 (the "Offer Document") and by means of this advertisement, Apax Partners is making a recommended offer ("the Offer") on behalf of Novaside to acquire all of the issued and to be issued share capital of Avonside Group PLC ("Avonside"). This advertisement alone does not constitute and must not be construed as an offer to acquire shares. Novaside has received irrevocable undertakings from those Avonside directors who are shareholders to accept the Offer in respect of their entire beneficial interests in Avonside Shares, representing proximately 0.30% of the issued share capital of Avonside. These undertakings may not be withdrawn. Terms defined in the Offer Document have

Subject to the Offer becoming or being declared wholly unconditional, an Avonside Shareholder who validly accepts the Offer will receive 55p in cash for each Avonside Share.

The Offer values all of the issued and to be issued share capital of Avonside at approximately £22.38 million. The Offer represents a premium of 37.5% over the closing middle market price of 40p for an Avonside Share on 5 January 1999, the last day of business before the board of Avonside announced that it was in discussions which might or might not lead to an offer being made for the whole of the issued share capital of Avonside. No final dividend will be paid in respect of the year ended 31 December 1998 if the Offer becomes or is declared unconditional in all respects.

The full terms and conditions of the Offer (including details of how the Offer may be accepted) are set out in the Offer Document and Form of

Avonside Shareholders who accept the Offer must rely only on the Offer Document and the Form of Acceptance for all the terms and conditions of

The Offer is, by means of this advertisement, being extended to all persons to whom the Offer Document may not be dispatched who hold, or who are entitled to have allotted or issued to them. Avonside Shares. Such persons are informed that copies of the Offer Document and Form of Acceptance are available for collection from Apax Partners & Co. Capital Limited at 15 Portland Place, London, WTN 3AA.

The Offer, which has been made by means of the Offer Document and this advertisement will be open for acceptance until 3.00pm on 30 April 1999 for such later time(s) and/or date(s) as Novaside may, subject to the Code, decide).

The Independent Directors (who comprise David Humphrey, Neil O'Brien and Nicholas Talbot Rice), being the Directors who do not have any interest in Novaside and who will not have any continuing involvement with Avonside if the Offer is successful, have taken responsibility for considering the Offer on behalf of Avonside and, together with their professional advisers, for reaching conclusions on the appropriate recommendation to Avonside Shareholders. Taking into account the factors set out in the Chairman's letter in the Offer Document, the Independent Directors of Avonside, who have been so advised by Albert E Sharp Securities, consider the terms of the Offer to be fair and reasonable. Accordingly, the Independent Directors of Avonside manimously recommend all Avonside Shareholders to accept the Offer as they have undertaken and in respect of their own hopeficial holdings of 107 000 Avonside Share emissions approximately 0.76% of the issued share emission. Accordingly, the Independent Directors of Avonside manimously recommend all Avonside States and except the Other is they have intertacted to do in respect of their own beneficial holdings of 107.000 Avonside. Shares, representing approximately 0.26% of the issued share capital of Avonside in providing advice to the Independent Directors, of Avonside, Albert E Sharp Securities has taken into account the commercial assessments of the Independent Directors of Avonside. Following the Offer having become or being declared unconditional in all respects, Craig Slater will subscribe for equity in Novaside. He has not therefore participated in the Independent Directors' recommendation.

The Offer is not being made directly or indirectly, and the Offer Document and Form of Acceptance are not being and must not be mailed or otherwise distributed or sent, in whole or in part, in or into or from, the United States, Canada, Australia or Japan.

This advertisement is not being published in or otherwise distributed or sent in, into or from the United States, Canada, Australia or Japan and persons ruis advertisement is not pering published in of otherwise distribute of sent at, into of notific distribute of sent at, into of notific distribute of sent this advertisement, the Offer Document nor the Form of Acceptance (nor any related document(s)) in, into or from the United States, Canada, Australia or Japan nor use the United States, Canadaan. Australian or Japanese mails or any such means, instrumentality or facility for any purpose, directly or indirectly, in connection with the Offer and doing so will invalidate purported acceptances of the Offer.

All Avonside Shareholders (including custodians, trustees and nominees) who would otherwise intend to forward any of the documents relating to the Offer to any jurisdiction outside the UK should seek appropriate advice before taking such action.

This advertisement is published on behalf of Novaside by Apax Partners and has been approved by Apax Partners solely for the purposes of section

Apax Partners, which is regulated in the United Kingdom by The Securities and Futures Authority, is acting for Novaside in connection with the Offer and no-one else and will not be responsible to anyone other than Novaside for providing the protections afforded to customers of Apax Partners or for

Albert E Sharp Securities, which is regulated in the United Kingdom by The Securities and Futures Authority, is acting for Avonside in connection with the Offer and no-one else and will not be responsible to anyone other than Avonside for providing the protections afforded to customers of Albert E Sharp Securities or for giving advice in relation to the Offer.

The directors of Novaside, the directors of Alchemy Partners (Guernsey) Limited (which manages the Alchemy Investment Plan, which is investing in Novaside) and the partners of Alchemy Partners listed in the Offer Document accept responsibility for the information contained in this advertisement other than the recommendation of the Independent Directors. The Independent Directors accept responsibility for their recommendation in this advertisement. To the best of the knowledge and belief of these respective parties (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this advertisement for which they are collectively responsible is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.

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# Blue chips ride the Buffett factor

THE STOCK market has lit upon a new guessing game spotting investment guru Warren Buffett's latest British investment

He has let it be known that he is stalking a British company and his stake will soon move through the declarable 3 per cent barrier. Until he has to make an announcement. the sage of Omaha is naturally playing his cards close to his chest, shrouding the identify of his target in mystery.

But the Buffett reticence was an irresistible temptation for many traders to try to anticipate the legendary American investor's intentions.

Great Universal Stores, up 35.5p to 780.5p, and Royal Bank of Scotland, up 62p at 1,425p, were probably the two favourite candidates. But Reuters, 36.5p higher at

LONDON PACIFIC, an obscure financial group. soared 174p to 393.5p; another beneficiary of unfettered Internet fever.

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The Jersey-based company is said to have stakes in 15 unquoted, US Internet operations. Many are still in the fledgling stage but, the story runs, if they all managed to come to market the London Pacific shareholdings could be worth over £1bn. The company's ADRs have been strong in New York.

1,009.5p, Marks & Spencer. 14.25p to 429.5p, and fund manager Amvescap, 38p to 670.5p. were others in the frame. Spirits behemoth Diageo could be another target as Mr Buffett at one time built a stake in one of its constituents, Guinness. But Diageo fell 8p to 676.5p.

The Buffett influence, takeover excitement and a firm New York opening helped Footsie to post yet another record high, up 71.9 points at 6,513.1 in busy trading. Supporting shares also made headway.

Tesco, following results, led the Footsie leader board with a 9.75p gain to 169.25p. Among those in the takeover ferment were Bass, the brewer and hotelier. It frothed 33p to 877.5p





DEREK PAIN

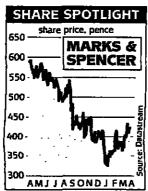
strike. The market is convinced that the leisure group, up 50p at 1.143p, has expansion in mind and is casting around for a bid candidate. A while ago Whitbread, up 30.5p at 978.5p. was rumoured to be in Granada's sights.

Unilever rose 24.5p to 595p

on rumours that it plans a US acquisition. Barclays, on the brief reign of chief executive Michael O'Neill, was at one time down 49p. But the realisation that the bank has merely increased its vulnerability to a takeover strike lifted the shares 46p to 1,119p. Lloyds TSB added 39.5p to 1,060p on speculation that it may abandon its rumoured US ambitions and turn its attention to Barclays. Royal Bank of Scotland was seen as another contender for the accident-prone bank.

Scottish & Newcastle jumped 27p to 674p on its positive analysts' meetings, but stockbroker Sutherlands was unimpressed, holding its year's profit forecast at a bottom-ofthe-range £392m following talks with the company.

AstraZeneca missed the fun, achieving its sixth fall in a row. The shares lost 33p to 2,732p; they have yet to hit winning ways since the Anglo-Swedish merger was com-



pleted. Railtrack reversed 24p to 1,355p following negative regulatory comments, and Dixons suffered a predictable reaction to its heady surge, falling 22p to 1,542p.

Scapa's £229m sale of its paper business to the German Voith group lifted the shares 27p to 144p and inspired other packaging and paper shares, with David S Smith rising 10p to 123p.

St James Place put on 21.5p to 280p on thoughts that Prudential's swoop on the M&G unit trust group could put the life insurer into play, and Safeway rose 6.25p to 251.5p on talk of an overseas strike.

Laporte, the chemicals group, dropped 95p to 667.5p as its takeover talks were abandoned after just a day. The group is now seen as in play. Next, the fashion chain,

WEIR IS moving ahead again: the shares rose a further 10p to 272.5p. American predators

have circled and in February the engineer turned down a 300p a share offer from Flowserve of Texas. The latest story is of the hunted turning bunter. It is said to be deeply involved in talks to buy some major parts of a leading Swiss group. Weir shares touched 307p on the appearance of Flowserve.

firmed 8p to 830p as hedge fund Tiger Management sold more shares. Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers rose 50p to 1,750p as Johnston Press lifted its stake to 17.35 per cent.

The "A" shares of Sotheby's. the auctioneer, surged a further 312.5p to 2,312.5p following a US report about the scope for auctions on the Internet. Sotheby's plans a website in the summer. Pilat Technologies, on its

broadcast systems sale, rose a further 12p to 47.5p. Petra Diamonds sparkled 16.5p higher to 81p following investment meetings, and Cambridge Mineral Resources firmed 1.25p to 8p on growing hopes for its Irish diamond prospect.

SEAQ VOLUME: 1.1 billion SEAQ TRADES: 85.752 GILTS INDEX: 114.19 -0.25

# RJB signs £1.3bn power deal

BRITAIN'S beleaguered coal industry received a major boost yesterday after RJB Mining. the country's biggest producer, signed a £1.3bn deal to supply the electricity generator National

The power group has agreed to buy up to 28 million tonnes of RJB coal over the next four years. The new contract will be added to a previous deal for 18 million tonnes, bringing the total coal to be supplied by RJB to National Power to 46 million tonnes.

The coal will go to three of National Power's biggest stations: the Drax in North Yorkshire, the Eggborough plant in East Yorkshire and the Didcot generator in Oxfordshire.

National Power said the deal would not be affected by its decision to sell Drax in return for regulatory clearance to acquire the regional electricity supplier Midlands Electricity.

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

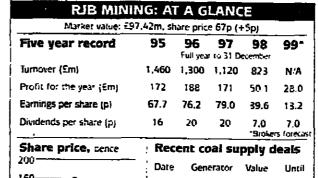
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The coal contract, which follows similar deals with other electricity companies, including PowerGen and Eastern. eases fears of thousands of redundancies among RJB's 9,000 workforce.

The jobs of many of the group's employees have been under threat in recent years as the spread of gas-fired power stations and import of cheaper coal caused a slump in RJB's sales and profits. The chief executive, Richard

Budge, yesterday stopped short of pledging that there would be no redundancies, but he said that the National Power deal would enable the company "to plan our mining operations in the most cost-effective way for some years to come".

The City welcomed the deal,



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to 67p. "[The new contract] than 20 million tonnes over four means they will be able to sup-years," one analyst said. port coal production at reason-

0 94 95 96 97 98 99

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ably healthy levels through to string of deals had wor RJB a sending RJB shares 5p higher 2003. It secures coal sales of more welcome breathing space. They

said the company should use this to cut costs and expand overseas in order to hedge against the long-term decline of the UK coal market.

Sceptics doubt that internal restructuring and investment abroad will be enough to combat the problems of the UK coal industry: Domestic deep-mined coal is still far more expensive than imported material and gasfired electricity. The recentlyannounced government ban on the construction of gas-fired stations should help in the long term, but in the short run there is enough gas to wipe out another 12 million of coal demand.

These worries are all in RJB's share price, which has plummeted from a year's high of 139.5p. It is now on just five times 1999 earnings of about £28m. With the medium term looking more secure. RJB is

# British Land secures lower financing costs

BRITISH LAND'S decision to issue a £1.54bn bond backed up by the income from its high quality London office development, Broadgate Centre, yesterday received an enthusiastic welcome in the City.

Analysts said the deal exploited the prestige value of Broadgate and the low interestrate climate, and said they expected to see competitors in the sector follow suit.

BY ANNA MINTON

"We've been recommending refinancing of debt in the sector since the end of last year. With low interest rates it makes huge sense for companies with high quality assets and tenants." a property analyst with a leading investment bank said.

Echoing analysts' sentiment.

confirmed that the group was looking "very seriously" at the securitisation of debt - the issue of high-yield bonds backed by rental returns.

The British Land deal. announced on Monday, was cited as an example of creative thinking in the sector. "It's a very good deal which underlines how financially astute Capital Shopping Centres British Land is," said Com- to save the company £20m a

John Atkins. "It's been received well by the market, with a 7p jump on Monday. They're back at a similar level now, but there's no question this has been received anything but favourably."

The refinancing will reduce British Land's interest on its £1.2bn debt from 8.49 per cent to 7.4 per cent and is forecast finance director, Tony Babcock, merzbank property analyst year. However, securitisation

when told the news at an other-

wise jolly reception held to launch a learned tome, "Pay-

will impose an exceptional charge of £68m, to be paid by the company in the year ended March 1999. British Land finance director John Weston Smith said: "We've taken the 268m hit but in the long term. with the size of debt we have. this is cheap funding."

British Land shares, closing at 554p, trade at a similar discount to net asset value as its peers. They are worth buying.

# A very humble **Enterprise**

ENTERPRISE AND Lasmo may have broken off merger talks, but that won't stop them playing football against each other. Not surprising really, consid-

ering that the two independent oil exploration companies have been talking to each other about a possible link-up for years. Just last month Enterprise beat Lasmo 4-1 in an enjoyable 11-a-side encounter at Enter-

prise's home ground at Battersea, London. An Enterprise spokesman modestly said that the scoreline did not reflect the game. "There were plenty of good chances on both sides. Perhaps we were

luckier in our finishing.

"We've been playing Lasmo a variety of companies – people like Abbey Life, Shell, Texaco."

# PEOPLE AND BUSINESS

By John WILLCOCK

Will they continue playing Lasmo? "I do hope so," he says. And who were the goal scorers for Enterprise? "No names - we wouldn't want to appear arrogant," he replies. Perish the thought

SO MIKE O'NEILL is not coming to take over Barclays after all. In an eerie coincidence a

# O'Neill's slogans Bank catches on

they may mean.

you know, the surfer's other slo

mer on the inside," whatever

ALTHOUGH NEWS of Mike O'Neill's withdrawal from the Barclays job had been all over famous American surfer called the TV and radio yesterday Jack O'Neill coined the slogan: morning, it had not penetrated

Bank staff were shocked

ment Systems in Global Perspective. Eddie George, the Governor. hosted the bash in the magnificent first floor ante-room of

the Bank. Impressively, the 80a-day Governor was able to become one of the US's biggest complete the session without sportswear magnates. Just so once lighting a cigarette. One of the book's co-authors, John Trundle, a former gans were: "Snow is only frozen water" and: "It is always sum-

personal secretary to the Governor explained: "It's because he's so excited about launching the book." A-ba.

## Gartmore's loss

GARTMORE HAS dispensed with the services of Peter Pearson Lund, one of the doyens of the fund manage- and developed Freeserve. reorganisation.

Mr Pearson Lund, formerly

a chairman of Gartmore Fund Managers and most recently a senior manager in Gartmore's retail division, will not be replaced. Mr Pearson Lund joined Gartmore in 1985 after a long spell with Henderson.

A spokesman for Gartmore. which was bought by NatWest three years ago, said: "All companies evolve and change. There was no longer a role senior enough for a man of his experi-

## Freeserve ace

DIXONS YESTERDAY appointed John Pluthero as chief executive of Freeserve, the company's free Internet service, following its decision on Monday to explore a float of the division. Mr Pluthero launched

E-mail: j.willcock@indepen-

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| UK Australia Australia Australia Australia Belglum Canada Denmark Euro Finland France Germany Greece Hong Kong Ireland Italy Japan Malaysia Mexico Netherlands Norway Portugal Jauda Arabia Janan Sangapore South Arraba | 1,0000<br>2,5352<br>2,6018<br>2,4018<br>11,127<br>1,4971<br>9,820<br>486,13<br>12,591<br>12,592<br>6,1294<br>15,315<br>15,315<br>15,315<br>3,2991<br>12,510<br>30,0493<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2,7696<br>2, 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| 2.5338<br>20.573<br>50.000<br>2.3978<br>11.067<br>8.8433<br>9.756<br>2.9090<br>490.41<br>12.573<br>11.1714<br>2879.9<br>191.33<br>6.4633<br>3.2776<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2.9786<br>2. | 0.6200<br>1 5717<br>12.717<br>137.440<br>1.4895<br>0.9282<br>5.5183<br>6.0881<br>1.8152<br>301.39<br>7.7500<br>1797.1<br>120.16<br>3.8000<br>9.4950<br>0.5412<br>0.5412<br>18.555<br>186.07<br>1.7555<br>186.07<br>1.7755<br>186.07<br>1.7755<br>186.07<br>1.7771<br>1.7771 | 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| Spain<br>Sweden<br>Switzerland<br>US                                                                                                                                                                                     | 249.09<br>13.375<br>2.3958<br>1.6130                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        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|           | OTHER SPOT RATES |        |             |          |         |  |  |  |
|-----------|------------------|--------|-------------|----------|---------|--|--|--|
| Country   | Sterling         | Deltar | Country     | Sterling | Bollar  |  |  |  |
| Argentina | 1.6049           | 0.9950 | Oman        | 0 6129   | 0.3800  |  |  |  |
| Brazd     | 2.6816           | 1.6625 | Pakistan    | 73.827   | 45.770  |  |  |  |
| China     | 13.162           | 8,1600 | Phillipines | 60.391   | 37 440  |  |  |  |
| Czech Rep | 56.992           | 35.333 | Poland      | 6.4222   | 3.9815  |  |  |  |
| Egypt     | 5.5047           | 3.4127 | Catar       | 5.8705   | 3.6395  |  |  |  |
| Ghana     | 3916.0           | 2427.8 | Russia      | 41534.8  | 25750.0 |  |  |  |
| Hungary   | 380.10           | 235.65 | South Korea | 1963.8   | 1217.50 |  |  |  |
| India     | 68.996           | 42 775 | Tatyvan     | 52.648   | 32.640  |  |  |  |
| Indonesia | 14073 4          | 8725.0 | Thailand    | 61.375   | 38.050  |  |  |  |
| Kuwait    | 0.4923           | 0.3052 | Turkey      | 612271   | 379585  |  |  |  |
| Nigeria   | 148.09           | 91,810 | UAE         | 5.9237   | 3.6725  |  |  |  |

|         | Marginal          |       | Ü              | scounc<br>S | 2.7  | , .   |            | izeriand | 0.30             | ^.        |
|---------|-------------------|-------|----------------|-------------|------|-------|------------|----------|------------------|-----------|
|         | acility 1         |       |                | -<br>rime   | 7.75 | 5%    |            | COUNT    | 0.50             | ١.        |
| Repo    |                   | .50%  | Ď              | SCOUNT      | 4.50 |       | Lor        | nbard    | 2 88             |           |
| Canad   |                   |       | F              | ed Funds    | 4.69 | 3%.   |            |          |                  |           |
| Prime   |                   | .50%  | S              | weden       |      |       | •          |          |                  |           |
|         | •                 |       |                |             |      |       |            |          |                  |           |
|         |                   |       |                |             |      |       |            |          |                  |           |
|         |                   |       |                | BON         | D YI | ELD:  | 5          |          | _                |           |
| Countr  | y 3 mai           | chg   | 1 yr           | chg         | 2 yr | chg   | 5 yr       | chg      | 10 <b>y</b> r    | chg       |
| Austri  | alia 4.61         | -0.06 | 4.55           |             |      | -0.06 |            | 0 02     | 5 26             |           |
| Belgit  | ım 2.56           | 0.00  | 2.61           | 0.00        |      | 0.05  |            | 0.02     | 4 09             |           |
| Canad   | la 4,48           | -0.02 | 4,60           | -0 03       |      | 0.00  |            | 0.00     | 4 87             | -Ú Ú1     |
| Euro    | 2.65              | -0.01 | 2 72           | 0.00        | 2.74 | 0.01  | 3 26       | 0.06     | 3 83             | 0.04      |
| France  | e 2.65            | -0.01 |                | -0 02       | 2.73 | 0.01  | 3 28       | 0.06     |                  | -0.01     |
| Germa   | any 2.65          | -0.01 | 2 72           | 0.00        | 2.74 | 0.00  | 3.12       | 0.05     | 3.83             | 0.03      |
| Italy   | 2.55              | -0.07 | 2.68           | -0 25       | 2.86 | 0 0 1 | 3 36       | 0.02     | 4 08             |           |
| Japan   | 0.09              | 0.00  | 0.14           | 0 01        | 0.25 | 0.01  | 0.79       | 0.03     | 1 60             | 0.03      |
| N'land  | ds 2.65           | -0.01 | 2.72           | 0.00        | 2.80 | 0.01  | 3 27       | 0.03     | 3 96             | 0.04      |
| Soain   |                   |       | 2.60           |             |      | 0.00  |            | 0.04     | 4 08             | 0.05      |
| Swed    |                   | 0.02  | 2.91           | 0.05        | 3 05 | -0.02 | 3 48       | -0 03    | 4.20             | -0.04     |
| S'land  |                   | 0.04  | 1.20           | 0.02        |      | 0 00  |            | 0.00     | 2.34             | 0.01      |
| Uk      | 4.94              |       | 5.32           |             |      | 0 07  |            | 0.04     | 4 43             |           |
| US      | 4.17              | 0.15  | 4.40           | 0.24        | 4.92 | -0.02 | 5 00       | -0 04    | 5 10             | -0.05     |
|         |                   |       | MO             | NEY M       | ARK  | ET I  | RATES      | ;        |                  |           |
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|         |                   |       | 8513           | 5 19 5 31   |      | 5 36  |            |          |                  | 32525     |
|         | stic Depo         |       | 5538           | 5 2B 5 41   |      | 531   |            |          |                  | 225 25    |
|         | erling De         |       | 2 7 3 <b>6</b> | 725 741     | 2/2  | 5 09  | 5 06 5 0   |          | 19.33 '<br>  494 |           |
|         | e Bank Bi         | h2    |                |             |      | 521   | 52451      |          |                  | 355 17    |
| Sterlin | g cus<br>olar CDs |       |                |             | 469  |       | 480        | 48       |                  |           |
|         |                   |       |                | 2.65 2 65   |      |       | 26526      |          |                  | 722.72    |
| Ento 1  | JUG               |       |                | 2.03 2 03   | 400  | 2 00  | 2 03 2 0   | וסיב כו  | o. 00 .          | 11.272    |
|         |                   |       |                |             |      |       |            |          |                  |           |
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|         |                   |       | 6.             | , -         |      |       |            |          |                  |           |
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| Contract                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               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# SPORT

Hillsborough: Ten years ago tomorrow a Sheffield stadium witnessed the worst tragedy in British sporting history

# The open gate that led to death

**DY NICK HARRIS** 

LIVERPOOL AND Nottingham Forest travelled to Sheffield on 15 April 1989 to contest an FA Cup semi-final, just as they had done in the same competition in the same place the previous year. Under the headline "Welcome Back" in the match programme, the Sheffield Wednesday chairman, Bert McGee, wrote: "As you look around Hillsborough you will appreciate why it has been regarded for so long as the venue for all kinds of important matches. It is a stadium that befits such occasions and the large crowds they attract." On the final page was the message: "Good luck to both teams, and have a safe journey home." The events that day were to cost 96 people their lives.

It had been a bright, sunny afternoon. Many of the 54,000 supporters arrived early and took their places in the allotted ends of the ground, the Forest fans primarily on the Spion Kop, and the bulk of the Liverpool fans in the West Stand at the Leppings Lane end. The prematch mood was later described in Lord Justice Taylor's inquiry into the disaster as "one of carnival, good humour and expectation".

The terraces of the Leppings Lane stand had only seven turnstiles to serve 10,000 ticket-holders. The first to arrive poured into pens No 3 and No 4 behind the goal, and the centre of the terrace quickly became congested. Just before 2.30pm, the number of people in Leppings Lane increased dramatically and suddenly there were 5,000 queuing to get in.

At 2.47pm, Supt Roger Marshall, in charge of the section, became concerned that those waiting outside were in danger of being crushed and he called for another entrance (gate C) to be opened. At 2.52pm Supt Marshall was granted permission by Chief Supt David Duckenfield, the man in overall charge of policing. Against the advice of stewards, 2,000 fans piled in. It was evident that there were problems, but calls by police inside the ground to delay the match went unanswered.

Once through the gate, the 2,000 found themselves in an open area, off which there was a 23-metre tunnel leading to pens No 3 and No 4. already packed full. No one in police control had told those inside that the ates were to be opened rect the supporters to the less crowded flanks of the terrace. Lack of signs inside drew people into the tunnel and into the pens. The crushing in both the tunnel and the pens.

already dangerous, intensified. "People were walking on other people's heads to get out from the crush," one supporter said the next day. "People were collapsing and people were trying to push others out of the way to help those on the floor. People were being sick. People were shouting for help to those at the front to open the gates to let them be dragged out but it seemed so slow in opening the gates."

At 2.54pm the teams came out and the crowd surged forward. In the tunnel to the pens, people were packed



A carpet of flowers dedicated to the Hillsborough dead covers the pitch at Anfield following the disaster which claimed 96 lives

fencing. "I realised it was serious when I saw one of the lasses stand-By 3.12pm, the perimeter fencing ing near me just turn blue in the face. She went down. She was dead. That was it." Lord Justice Taylor said later in his report: "It was truly gruesome. The victims were blue, cyanotic, incontinent; their mouths open, vomiting; their eyes staring."

Police in the control room thought the problem was crowd trouble and called for dog handlers from HQ. Such a decision seems barbaric now, but. 10 years ago, with hooliganism still widespread and many football grounds inhospitable and menacing. they were not alone in their initial reaction. Closer to the pitch, Supt Roger Greenwood realised what was

really happening and radioed for the

the referee to get the players off.

was being pulled down with bare hands but it was too late. The dead and injured were carried away on advertising hoardings ripped down to serve as makeshift stretchers. The first ambulance arrived at Leppings Lane at 3.13pm, but access to the pitch was obstructed. Twenty minutes later, another ambulance tried to drive on to the pitch but the driver was told by a policeman: "You can't go on there, they're still fighting." Few in the ground had any

idea what was happening. At 3.47pm Kenny Dalglish, the Liverpool manager, addressed the crowd, calling for co-operation with the police and the first-aid teams. It and a friend called at the house to say

so tightly they could not breathe. youngsters in front of me," said match to be stopped. When that was 20 minutes later that the crowd he had lost him in the confusion, itch and told received their next advice, to hold on to their tickets. "The match will be abandoned," an announcer said.

The bodies of the dead were taken to the makeshift mortuary in the Hillsborough gymnasium. There were harrowing scenes as unsympathetic and obstructive policemen denied relatives access to the bodies of their loved ones.

A number of relatives faced hours, and, in some cases, days of anxiety as they waited for information. Philip Hammond, aged 14, had gone to the game with friends. His father, Phil, saw events unfold on television and rang the coach company with whom his son was travelling. They assured him the coaches were returning full, but when Philip failed to come home

Sheffield, Late on the Saturday night, a policeman called at the Hammond

house and, seeing him, Phil said: "Don't tell me. He's dead." The policeman replied: "No, he's alive," and told Phil to phone a Sheffield number for information. At this point Brian arrived home and broke the news that he had already identified

his brother's body. The case was not isolated, and if the nightmare of the victims and their relatives had not been enough, the story that went around the world that night, courtesy of Chief Supt Duckenfield, was that the fans had brought the disaster on themselves by smashing down gate C. They had not, of course, but the truth

FA is supposed to be responsible for

all levels of the game but despite hav-

ing a keen parks player, the recently

deposed Graham Kelly, as chief

## THE DAYS AFTER THE DISASTER

Sunday 16 April 1989: Liverpool announce they will play no more games until the dead are buried. The FA's chief executive, Graham Kelly, says more seats and less terracing are needed at football grounds. Sepp Blatter, then the general secretary and the now president of Fifa, says that until grounds are improved "the prospects of them [English clubs] playing again in Europe have

Monday 17: In Liverpool, the 20m radio news starts with a roll call of the dead. The 94 names (later to rise to 96) takes 12 minutes to read. The FA says that the question of a replay lies in Liverpool's hands. Derby and Spurs start dismantling fencing at their grounds. Others contemplate doing the same. Arsenal cancel their Tuesday match against Wimbledon, against the will of the FA Tuesday 18: Lord Justice Taylor visits Hillsborough. Lee Nichol, aged 14, dies of his injuries in hospital to take the death toll to 95. Wednesday 19: The first bodies return to Liverpool. Southampten play the first First Division match since the disaster and draw 0-0 with Norwich Manager Chris Nicholl says: "Winning and losing seems of little importance." The FA announces that Saturday's matches will start at 3.06pm. Thursday 20: After a day of de bate, Liverpool and Everton announce they will pull down

fencing at their grounds. Friday 21: The funerals of 14 victims take place in Liverpool. Queues at Anfield are half a mile long and it's estimated that 500,000 pilgrims have contributed to the blanket of flowers and

scarves on the pitch. Saturday 22: First Division matches (except Liverpool's game with Arsenal) go ahcad. Liverpool comes to a halt at 3.06pm for a minute's silence.

Sunday 23: John Barnes pulls out the England squad to face Alba-Sunday 30: Liverpool play a friendly in Glasgow against Celtic, winning 4-0 and raising £350,000 for the Hillsborough fund and then announce they will play the FA Cup replay against Forest. (The game eventually takes place on Sunday 7

Merseyside final 3-2). Wednesday 3 May: Liverpool play their first competitive match since Hillsborough, against Everton at Goodison, in front of 45,000 people. The 0-0 scoreline is irrelevant. A banner in the Liverpool end reads: "The Kop thanks you all. We never walked alone."

1-20-1 2-3-2

And the second s

Healthcare County

dig<sub>lousp</sub>ib

May. Dalglish's side run out 3-1

winners. They go on to win an all

# Rich elite ignore the crisis at grassroots

The Taylor Report has benefited the game's leading clubs while the rest struggle to stay affoat despite a golden age. By Glenn Moore

JUST AS people of a certain age can remember where they were when John F Kennedy was assasinated, so football fans across Britain, whoever they support, remember the game they were at on the day of the Hillsborough tragedy.

More than any of the disasters of that benighted decade - the sinkings of The Marchioness and The Herald of Free Enterprise, the King's Cross fire, even the football tragedies of Bradford and Heysel - Hillsborough struck a chord. We had been there: we all knew it could easily have been us.

Like many fans I had stood on the away terrace at Leppings Lane; like most, I had been caught in a terrace crush. Mine was five years earlier at Blundell Park where, as at Hillsborough, fans who attempted to escape by climbing over the fences were initially met with police batons.

The fear that day soon subsided. Indeed, the inherent danger of terracing even added a sense of daring to the exhilarating feeling of weightlessness experienced when you were swept along in a surging crowd.

Hillsborough changed that. Just as Kennedy's death signalled a loss of innocence for the baby boom generation so football supporters who had always thought "it won't happen to me" had to accept it could. We had learned to live with hooliganism, partly because experienced supporters could spot trouble coming and avoid it. This was

wider world as well. The process was slow, due to the lies put out by police and disseminated by The Sun, but football supporters gradually came to be seen as ordinary people who had been victims, not hooligans. The game also found a saviour in Lord Justice Taylor, whose report pushed a government congenitally opposed to the game into supporting it. The Membership Card Scheme, which could have crippled football, was abandoned in favour of diverting millions of pounds of betting tax money into re-

one fan said. "He asked me to hold

his head in my arms. He said to me

'help me' and then he just died in my

arms." Behind them people were still

At 3pm the match kicked off and

there was another surge at the

front. Calls for the fencing to be

pulled down were ignored and some

supporters were pulled from the ter-

those crushed breathless by it,

standing or prone, life was ebbing

away," said the report. Some start-

ed to climb over the high, spiked

fences on to the perimeter track. On

the pitch, Liverpool's Peter Beard-

sley hit the post at 3.04pm and there

was another surge. "It was mainly

"The pressure stayed and for

race by those in the stand above.

coming in, stopping any retreat.

building its stadiums. When, on the back of Italia 90 and Gazza's tears, a new audience was attracted to the domestic game, they were not turned off by what they found. Rupert Murdoch was one of the first to realise this and, through his Sky satellite channel, both profited from

and accelerated the trend. The consequences are all around us. Literally. Even if you do not follow the game you are assailed by its images. Football sells everything from shampoo to burgers to satellite dishes to cars to watches. For devotees the game appears to be enjoying a golden age. Players such as Dennis Bergkamp and Gianfranco Zola light up swish grounds, watched by capacity crowds drawn from across classes and genders. England may have wobbled under Glenn Hoddle but the Premiership, which has semifinalists in two European competitions, is avidly followed from Australia Fortunately for the game, and its to Norway. Multinational companies, followers, perceptions changed in the not content with scrambling to spon-

sor players, competition and clubs, seek to buy the latter.

Which is where doubts emerge. Last week's ruling that prevented BSkyB taking over Manchester United was as welcome as it was unexpected but the trend is unlikely to be reversed. The top end of the game is moving away from its bedrock support both in terms of people and structure.

Working class supporters, the young men who sustained the game during its years of decline, are being priced out at the turnstile. Lower

which gives the sport a stake in every

During the seven months in which

BSkyB pursued its £623m bid for

United, two clubs, Portsmouth and

Crystal Palace, went into adminis-

tration while Luton called in the re-

ceivers. They joined Chester, who have

been in administration since the start

of the season, and follow Gillingham.

Bournemouth, Exeter, Northampton,

Barnet and Millwall, who have had

community, are being cut adrift.

similar experiences - and survived within the past four years.

Television and sponsorship income may have marginally increased in recent years but the rise is dwarfed by the knock-on effect of the Premiership's escalating wages. Most lower di-vision clubs are being kept afloat by generous chairmen or transfer sales though these, too, have declined post-Bosman due to the import of cheap foreigners and players' right to a free transfer once their contract is up.

One of the most pathetic illustradivision clubs, the countrywide fabric tions of this poverty came at Black-

Working class supporters are being priced out at the turnstile. Lower

division clubs, the countrywide fabric of the sport, are being cut adrift'

employee had to return a £5 pack of

polystyrene cups because there was

not enough money in the petty cash.

Meanwhile, Robbie Fowler can prob-

ably afford to pay the £60,000 fine he

received from the Football Association

last week from his current account.

benefited from the Government's

post-Hillsborough largess. The pri-

ority, following the Taylor Report,

**TOMORROW** 

Glenn Moore on the way ahead for football, 10 years after Hillsborough

Nick Harris on the lasting impact of the Taylor Report

Nor have the bulk of these clubs

pool a few weeks ago when an dwindled dramatically. This is due to

was the reconstruction of grounds in the top two English divisions and the Scottish Premier and the bulk of the £130m initial investment went into improving already large and reasonably impressive grounds. Arsenal, Chelsea, Leeds, Liverpool and Tottenham all received around £2m while Manchester United were granted £1.4m. just over a 10th of the money they invested in Dwight Yorke this season.

Now clubs outside the elite are trying to develop, or move from, their often inadequate grounds the money available to the Football Trust has

the impact of the National Lottery on

the football pools, from which the Trust

agreed to give £20m to the Trust after

agreeing the latest TV deal in 1997. To-

gether with £20m offered to assist

youth development at League clubs

this left the 20 Premiership clubs to

struggle on with the remaining £703m.

Meanwhile, down at the real grass-

The Premier League belatedly

receives its income.

executive for the last decade they appear to have largely ignored this area. From the £50m the FA receives each year from commercial activities, TV rights and international matches it allocates less than £2m to football being played by the 44,000 affiliated clubs from the Vauxhall Conference down to Sunday morning leagues.

There is FA investment outside the professional game but most of it goes on the elite of the future, promising youth players. The upkeep of changing-rooms and pitches for the amateur is left to local councils, who have more urgent funding priorities, or the players themselves. This is utterly inadequate. At least the Football Trust whose funding crisis has been eased by assistance from the FA, Professional Footballers' Association and government, intends to look at this area once they have helped the lower

divisions fulfil Taylor's requirements. When players have finished paying to play, they have to pay increasing sums to watch the professionals. Despite the Taylor Report's clear request that clubs should not take advantage of the move to seating to increase prices most have, to extortionate levels. The cheapest seat at Chelsea is £22 (uncovered) while it can even cost

£16 to watch Second Division football. Meanwhile, in the directors' box, the game's fat cats count fortunes which

pers. The likes of Sir John and Douglas Hall (Newcastle), David Dein (Arsenal), Doug Ellis (Aston Villa), Ken Bates (Chelsea), Alan Sugar (Spurs), Peter Johnson (Everton) and others have made actual or paper fortunes from the game but all are cast in shadow by Martin Edwards. The Manchester United chairman has realised £33m on his original £600,000 investment and still has 14 per cent of shares,

comes platinum-coated and diamond-studded. And yet, if television lost interest, which it might if hooliganism returned, or fashions moved on (already the sales of replica shirts, abarometer of the game's popularity, are falling) the sport would be in trouble. There are a lot of clubs locked into long-term, high-wage contracts. While money is flooding into the game football should invest it, not dish it out to rapacious players and agents, or allow it to be salt-

It should also have used its riches to look after its own: the way the game has stood by while the Hillsborough

roots, the picture is even worse. The make even the players look like pau-

estimated worth £62m, to sell. A golden age? For these men it ed away into directors' offshore bank

families have fought to be heard is nothing short of a disgrace.

This, however, involves people in positions of influence putting the wider interests of the game before their own. While there are honourable exceptions it is clear that this is unlikely. Coercion may be resporting histon

THE INDEPENDENT

THE DAYS AFTER THE DISASTER

Sunday 16 April 1989; Livery, all play to us. Charles until the dead are large. The FA's chief executive Con-The FAS chief executive free The tree control seat and to remacing are needed at but Scounds Sepp Blatter that Ecunity Secretary and the secr president of Fife says that the Storings sie imbtoned fe prospects of them English the placing again in Europe la

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Wednesday 2 May: Listed

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Henn Moore

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# Another Ronaldo, another world

LUIS FELIPE POSSO chooses his words carefully when asked Since Ronaldo's startling performance in Berlin last Septo describe the experience of tember, when he ran 2hr 06min managing the world's fastest 05sec to lower the 10-year-old marathon runner. "He's a chalworld marathon record by 45 lenge," he says. Eventually. seconds, he has attracted the The man of whom he speaks, kind of attention more usually Ronaldo da Costa, is smiling accorded to his Brazilian foot-

compliantly for a photographer balling namesake. who appears to be taking the His success, in what was same shot, again and again. The only his second marathon, lifted smile does not fade - it never Brazil's sporting morale in the does, according to Posso, who wake of their disappointment at has guided the fortunes of the the World Cup finals 10 weeks Brazilian for the last seven years. He makes no secret of the fact that he wishes the 28-

Ronaldo - whose own local league footballing career was year-old from Descoberto hampered by the fact that he was would spend less time accomalways put in goal - was joined modating the wishes of others, in Berlin by two Brazilian TV and more time concentrating crews. They escorted him back to his home country, where his

The Brazilian who has set new standards runs in the London Marathon on Sunday. By Mike Rowbottom

the media. A helicopter was waiting to take him back to his home town, 100 miles north of Rio, where he grew up in a family of 12 children. There he was paraded through the streets before the party began,

"Since September, Ronaldo has been besieged," Posso said. He has been to Monaco and Lanzarote to make media appearances, he has been to Italy for his shoe company. When he goes back home, fans come to his house, driving from Rio for him for money. He cannot get

picture appeared everywhere in away. The television people even found out he was preparing back home before this race when he had said he was going to San Diego.

> many distractions to his training," Posso said, "But he doesn't always listen."

"I try to tell him there are too

Posso looks after the fortunes of some of the world's finest marathon runners. Apart from Ronaldo, he manages Dionicio Ceron, the London winner from 1994-1996. Antonio Pinto, the winner in 1992 and autographs. Some simply ask 1997, and the Olympic champion. Josia Thugwane.

For him, they fall into two categories. "Ceron and Pinto." he says. "they are talented hard workers. Thugwane and Ronaldo - they don't need to

work hard."

How far both men can travel on talent will become evident on Sunday, when both contest the Flora London Marathon as part of what is, arguably, the strongest field ever assembled.

Ronald was in good humour yesterday as he discussed his prospects. "It's difficult to talk about running 2hr 06min now. temperature of 36 degrees to

same form as I was before Berlin last year. There are some very good runners here. the week before the race," he so we will have to see what hap-

While his manager frets. however, Ronaldo maintains he feels no particular weight of expectation after taking over the world best mark from Belayneh Dinsamo.

"It seems like it was only yesterday," he said. "There is no pressure for me."

He shrugged off his relatively poor showing in the Lis-Half-Marathon three bon weeks ago, where he finished because I have come from a 19th in 64min 43 sec - more than three minutes slower than

five degrees, which is quite a his time for the second half of difference. But I am in the the Berlin race seven months

> "I had run 180 kilometres in said. "I feel much better now I have rested properly."

Levity comes naturally to Ronaldo - asked yesterday if he prepared in any special way for a race, he replied with a wide grin: "Sex".

But he indicated his personal determination back in 1992 when he funded his own journey from Brazil to Florida, where he asked Posso to manage him.

He repaid Posso's confidence in him by winning a world half-marathon bronze in 1994, and recorded a highly



Ronaldo: New-found fame

creditable 2:09:57 in his first marathon, the 1997 race in

A year later, on the same flat course, creditable became incredible as Ronaldo rounded off a stupendous performance with an exuberant double cartwheel. The London organisers are hoping that what goes around comes around.

The Leicestershire slip cordon and wicketkeeper James Whitaker (right), begin the defence of the County Championship against Essex at Chelmsford yesterday

# Prichard puts past woes behind him

THE RUNS did not exactly flood in for Paul Prichard but between the showers of hail and rain which enveloped the at Chelmsford County Ground, the former Essex captain put behind him the misery of last season when every innings was an unhappy outing and ground his way to within a couple of blows of what should be his first half-century

for the best part of 18 months. Prichard had the most since they contrived to finish first-class runs to his name.

Oval spluttered reluctantly into

something resembling life for

another season yesterday after more than half a day's play was

lost to a combination of tor-

rential downpours, thunder and

lightning, hall storms and April

Given the inordinately early

might have been

start to this summer's pro-

ceedings, the inclement weath-

interpreted as an almighty

sign of disapproval. As it was, when the game finally got

going in earnest after the play-

ers had taken an early tea, a

biting gale kept Gloucester-

CRICKET BY DAVID LLEWELLYN

Essex 91-2 v Leicestershire

at The Oval

reason.

shire hands firmly in pockets cumstances and if it turns out

Surrey 124-0 v

Gloucestershire

quent appearance by the heavy

The visitors were in the field

bails - painted black for some

by choice, Mark Alleyne per-

haps fearing for the batsmen's

concentration on a day of in-

evitable interruption. But Mark

Butcher, who will captain Sur-

rey while Adam Hollioake re-

mains on World Cup duty, and

his opening partner, Ian Ward,

made light of the awkward cir-

and prompted an all too infre- fine today Alleyne might be encouragement for Glouces-

bottom of the heap). His highest score in the Championship was 24 and he finished the season by giving up the captaincy to Nasser Hussain and an av-

concentration Prichard negotiated each stoppage, the fourth was the final one, as if it were but a brief pause. And considering he was up against Leicestershire, the fending champions, it was all

the more meritorious. It was not plain sailing. Far from it. Mike Kasprowicz - an Essex old boy, albeit of just one season in 1994 - created plenty appalling run of form in 1998 erage of 13, hardly worthy of a of waves and frequently beat (so, as it happens, did Essex man with more than 15,000 the bat early on as Prichard around, took a comfortable and his opening partner, catch.

Butcher played fluently from

the start. A couple of dubious de-

cisions to leave balls that went

perilously close to his off stump

and a near run-out after a mis-

understanding with Ward were

the only blemishes in a half cen-

tury of sweetly timed strokes.

Surrey and preferred to the

more experienced Darren

Bicknell, was more circum-

spect to begin with but grew in

confidence, bringing up both the

50 and the 100 partnership with

beautifully executed cover

There was precious little

drives off Jon Lewis.

Ward, in his second spell at

ing by tonight.

As a measure of his level of Darren Robinson, struggled yesterday to find their bearings.

At times, given the light, that was understandable. Robinson looked the uneasier of the pair and it was no surprise when, having reached a scratchy 13, he finally succumbed. Chris Lewis, who was looking venomous at times from the River End, got the Essex man on to the back foot and found an edge high up the bat. Paul Nixon. one of the most underrated wicketkeepers

vey's spell of medium pace

suggested that Courtney Walsh

will indeed be badly missed as

their overseas player. The Vic-

torian all-rounder at least has

another string to his bow. al-

though he might have to wait a

against Middlesex at Lords in

by bad weather. Headley re-

for 1 at the close. Justin Langer

was unbeaten on 10 and Mark

Ramprakash had yet to score.

while longer to use it.

lan Flanagan, still only 18. sank without trace, his third ball rapping his pad when he was barely forward to give Kasprowicz a deserved wicket

Flanagan's departure set up an intriguing confrontation. since it brought Stuart Law to the crease. He is Kasprowicz's Queensland captain, but there was no sign of cobbership.

Law took two runs off the burly fast bowler then survived a confident bellow for legbefore. A ball or so later and Kasprowicz had the misfor-

tune to concede what appeared to be an inadvertent boundary, one that squirted over the ropes at third man,

Gradually, though, the batsmen's confidence grew. Prichard, having passed his 1998 mark. let rip with boundaries, first off Lewis, then James Ormond, and they sandwiched a far more confident brace from Law off Kasprowicz, the first a fine, fine

glance, the second a delicate cut. Ormond only lasted a couple of overs from the River

fective with the wind somewhere behind him. In the event he did not get on. As James Whitaker - back in charge of | the side after virtually a year out following long-term knee problems - juggled things around to effect the change of ends, a combination of a Lewis maiden from the River End and some heavy black clouds brought a premature close to proceedings. It was a day when

he would probably be more ef-

# more than 73 overs were lost End before it was decided that to the weather. Stewart's men state case for more cash

## Under-achievers of Sharjah are forced to negotiate from a position of weakness. By Derek Pringle

Dean Headley made the most IT WAS meant to be a trip of resof gloomy conditions to give olution for England's World Kent an early breakthrough Cup squad, but three straight losses and a row over conthe Championship yesterday tracts have turned their Sharon a day reduced to 10.1 overs jah sojourn into a war of wills between them and their emmoved Mike Roseberry for six ployers, the England and Wales as the home side struggled to 16 Cricket Board.

> Within an hour of winning their final match against Pakistan, Alec Stewart and his squad met behind closed doors with Tim Lamb, the chief executive of the ECB, and David Acfield, a non-executive member of the management board.

The meeting, which went on well into the early hours of the morning, did not pull its verbal punches and players' grievances over the current World Cup contracts were given a good airing.

Despite the passion - Darren Gough apparently gave an Olivier-class performance it is thought that no more money is to be put on the table. Instead some of the fine detail, such as compulsory travel by team coach and the chance to take some time off to see their families, will be looked at again.

As sweeteners go, it is hardly in the buff-envelope-on-a draughty-motorway-services class so beloved of uld-school football managers, and the ing the dotted line in unison is vred by his opposite numbers unlikely. The players will sign, but only grudgingly.

One of the sources of disquiet, it seems, has been the disparity between what players were paid for a one-off tournament in Bangladesh last October (£8,000), and what they are being offered for the first stage of the World Cup (believed to be about \$5,000).

The logic, if that is the right term, is that England will play five matches in stage one, as opposed to the single game played in Bangladesh. Taken to its extreme the players argument is that if most other professions charge by the minute, why shouldn't they.

In some ways the spat has united the players though, judging by the performances on the field, it is their employers rather than their opponents, who have borne the brunt. As a general rule sportsmen have no bargaining power without results and when the West Indies downed tools to get a better pay settlement it was before, not after, their disastrous tour of South Africa.

England's cricket here has mainly been shoddy and confused. The poor batting form of Stewart, as well as his stodgy captaincy, has not helped mat-

sound of 15 pens suddenly ink- ters. Comfortably outmanoeuin the first two games, it was only in the final two matches that he showed any flair by keeping men up in run-saving positions.

If that was an improvement, he has two County Championship matches and two National League matches to find some touch before the World Cup squad assemble at Canterbury on 2 May.

On the positive side England must be happy that Graham Thorpe and Neil Fairbrother came through Sharjah without stirring up their old injuries. Both the left-handers scored runs, too, though their final positions in the order, like the batting tactics in the first 15 overs, appear undecided

England also have a clearer picture of what Andrew Flintoff and Angus Fraser have to offer. Before this trip neither would have been thought of as definite first-choice material. Yet Flintoff's power and exuberance, as well as Fraser's oldfashioned virtues of line and length, have made both compulsory selections. Providing the others can emulate them, and contracts are signed. England may yet prove a force in the World Cup.

# Broncos' Cup final appeal to **Branson**

RUGBY LEAGUE BY DAVE HADFIELD

THE LONDON BRONCOS are appealing to the most recognisable club chairman in the game, Richard Branson, to have a change of beart and lead

them out at Wembley. Branson, whose Virgin group owns the club, has expressed a reluctance to muscle in on the big day, but the Broncos' chief executive, Tony Rea, is trying to persuade him to take centre stage for the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final on 1 May. "He says it's the team's day, but the team wants him to lead them out and I think he will," Rea said.

Rea was due to talk today to Branson, who is out of the country, to pass on the players' request that he should precede them out of the Wembley tunnel on the last time it will figure in a rugby league final. "Just from the point of view of the profile of the club, it would be a great thing for us," Rea added.

The Broncos stand-off, Karle Hammond, who has played twice at Wembley for St Helens, agreed. "It can only help the club from a publicity point of view if he leads us out for the

final." he said. Lionel Hurst, the chairman of the Rugby League Conference, which is made up of teams from outside the game's beartland, said that London reaching the final would significantly enhance its national

credentials. "Their win in the semi-final at Headingley will be seen as pivotal in rugby league's growth, not just in Britain but around the world." he said at the launch of the second season of the Conference yesterday.

The Broncos, whose second row forward, Dominic Peters, played for West London in the competition last year, are among the biggest supporters of the Conference. "It is not a question of what we can do for them or what they can do for us. but about the combined strength of the two," Rea said. "We are going to give a great performance at Wembley and give rugby league in the south something to be proud of."

There is evidence of further interaction between the Conference and the professional game in the staging of their preliminary grand finals as curtainraisers before Super League matches this summer. The final eliminator for clubs

in the south and east sections will be before the London v Salford game on 7 August, while teams from the north and east will play before Warrington meet St Helens on 15 August. The Grand Final is to be held at the New River Stadium, home of the London Skolars, on the 21 August.

The Conference, which begins its season on 8 May, includes six new teams this year and also has most of its clubs fielding junior outfits. "We are putting our best people into the junior sides, because that's where our future lies," Hurst said.

Bradford Bulls' Henry and Robbie Paul have been named in the New Zealand team for the Anzac Day Test against Australia at Sydney's Olympic Stadium on Friday, 23 April. The brothers were automatic selections after helping the Kiwis to a historic series tri-

umph on British soil last year. The Paul brothers will fly out to Sydney after the Bulls' Super League game at Warrington on Sunday and will miss their club's match against Halifax a week later.

#### **PPP Healthcare County** Championship

FIRST-CLASS cricket at The BY ADAM SZRETER

Durham v Worcestershire RIVERSIDE: (Day 1 of 4)

No play yesterday due to snow Essex v Leicestersbire

CHELMSFORD (Day 1 of 4): Essex have scored 91 for 2 wickets again Essey won toss

ESSEX — First inclogs \_43 0 6 97 363 P J Prichard not out... D D J Robinson c Nixon to Lewis ...13 N Flanagan Itow b Kasprowicz......0 003 0 3 34 47

**⊝aras** (84 nb17). Total (for 2, 30.2 overs) ....91 Fell: 1-40, 2-45. Ro Baiz: "R C Irani, A P Grayson, S D Peters, 1R J Rollins, A P Cowan, M C flott, P M Such. Bowling: M S Kasprowicz 14-4-39-1, C C Lewis 13.2-3-36-1, J Ormond 2-0-8-0, J M Dakin 1-0-4-0. Usesires: R Julian and R Palmer.

Lancashtre v Sussex OLD TRAFFORD: (Day 1 of 4) No play yesterday due to rain.

S G Law not out.

#### CRICKET SCOREBOARD Middlesex v Kent LORD'S (Day 1 of 4): Middle one wicket against Kent

Surrey shine amid the showers

MEDOLESEX — First loaings MR Ramprakash not out .......... 0 0 0 3 15 Total (for 1, 10.1 overs) .....16 Fell: 1-8.

To Batz R A Kettleborough. O A Shah. P N Weekes, 1D C Nash, J P Hewitt, S J Cook, R L Johnson, P C R Tufnell.
Bewilling: D W Headley 5.1-1-13-1, J B Thompson 5-2-3-

THE FOSTER'S OVAL (Day 1 of 4): Surrey have scored

Surrey v Gloucestershire

124 for no wickers against Gloucestershire Gloucestershire won toss SURREY — First loologs Rups 6s 4s Bis Min Entras (nb6).... 6 Total (for 0, 47 overs) ......124 b Bat: J D Rappliffe, N Shahid, A D Brown, B C Hollioake.

t) N Barry, G P Butcher, A J Tuctor, I D K Salisbury, M P

Eng: A M Smith 13-3-36-0, J Lewis 14-6-37-0, I J Har-

vey 8-4-21-0, M W Alleyne 7-3-16-0, M C J Ban 5-1-14-0 Umpires: B Dudleston and J F Steele

Other Match

kicking himself with some feel- tershire's bowlers and Ian Har-

Nottinghamshire v Cambridge Univ TRENT BRIDGE (Day 2 of 3): Cambridge University have scored 209 for 5 wickets against Notting

Cambridge University with her CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY — First Innings Overnigh 209-5 (Halsali 55)

Umpires: P Carrick and D J Constant No play vesterday due to rain. Today's fixtures (11.00 unless state):

PPP HEALTHCARE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of four) Edgbaston: Warwarkshire v Northamptonshire (Second day of four) Riverside: Durham v Worcestershire, Chelmsford: Esser-Leicestershire, Old Trafford: Lancashire v 505901. Lord's: Middlesex v Kent The Oval: Surry v

OTHER MATCHES (day 1 of 3) The Parks: Colord University v Hampshire (11 30), (day 3 of 3) Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Cambridge University

Be

by

# Veteran who has defied the years

WHEN A National Hunt jockey reaches the age of 35 a large claw usually descends to take him to the place of rest for winter riders. Not so Graham John Bradley, who will be 39 this year and still shows no signs of withering apart from the spreading grey stains at his temples.

They call him Brad in the weighing-room, but it could just as well be Dad. The Yorkshireman is hugely popular with his colleagues, even those who are just about young enough to be his offspring.

Bradley was born in Wetherby and still pledges allegiance to his local football team of note, Leeds United. You could not tell this from his wood-splitting accent, but the jockey has now been down south for some time. ploughing his furrow from one of Britain's richest racing vales. He lives in Sparsholt, near Wantage, but takes most of his liquid refreshment in the Queen's Arms at East Garston.

He is also a smoker and last week, when an arm injury sustained in the Irish Grand National looked like preventing him from riding in the Aintree original, he described the limb as being so painful that he could barely lift a fag to his mouth.

Brad is recognised by friend and foe as one of the great riding stylists. When this technically proficient horseman is in the saddle he casts virtually the same silhouette as Richard Dunwoody.

The jockey who was yesterday charged with conspiring to cheat has won some of racing's greatest

prizes. By Richard Edmondson

rections. Bradley is the best neat as the freshman. golfer in the weighing room, with a single-figure handicap. That is not the the only figure in 1980 gave us the chance for in which the jockey is interested. In the highly-sexed atmosphere of his sport the lads talk inson's Famous Five in the about the old fox being a great

Bradley is the son of Norman, a trainer who plied his trade from near Wetherby at Sicklinghall. The young lad's talents were soon apparent and even as a fledgling rider he was inducted into the finest racing academy in the land, the Harewood base of the all-conquering Dickinson family.

There were more experienced jockeys in this great finishing school and stronger ones

First winner: Talon at Sedgefield on

Grand National: Runner-up on

**BIG RACE WINNERS** 

Cheltenham Gold Cup: Bregawn

Born: 8 September, 1960.

11 March, 1980.

He causes envy in other di- too. None, however, were as

The man who rode his first winner on Talon at Sedgefield comparison with his workmates when he led home Dick-1983 Cheltenham Gold Cup on Bregawn. He was just 22.

Bradley's has not been a career of great numbers, rather of victories in just about all the major races. His best season was the 1986/87 campaign. when he recorded 53 winners.

The Cheltenham Festival's other great race, the Champion Hurdle, fell to him quite fortuitously on Collier Bay in 1996. Not lucky because of any fluke in the running of the race, but because Bradley was not due to

BRADLEY'S GLORY DAYS Bay (1996). Hennessy Gold Cup: Bregawr

(1982) & Suny Bay (1997).

(1984) & Stearsby (1986).

King George VI Chase: Wayward Lad (1985). Irlsh Grand National: Rhyme 'N Reason (1985). Welsh National: Righthand Man

be on Collier Bay at all. He had been scheduled to partner the big-race favourite. Alderbrook. but was removed from that posting when his alarm clock failed to wake him in time for the gelding's final piece of work. And when Morley Street was

kidded home in the Aintree Hurdle at the beginning of the decade Bradley's was acknowledged as the ride of that particular season.

Two years ago we almost lost his talent when the rides dried up and took the enthusiasm with them. Bradley was rescued by the Upper Lambourn trainer Charlie Brooks, who was himself questioned in connection with the race-fixing allegations before being released without charge at Charing Cross police station vesterday.

Between them this unlikely partnership of a jockey older than his trainer won prestigious races, but none was more notable than a runner-up placing a year ago, when Bradley and Suny Bay slogged through a Grand National quagmire to beat all bar Earth Summit.

The partnership completed the Liverpool course once again on Saturday, further cementing Sunv Bay's place as one of the favourite conveyances of Graham Bradley. Another great friend, and

he will be amused at the irony of it considering his present position, is the name of his King George VI winner, a horse called Wayward Lad.



Graham Bradley takes the Cheltenham acclaim on his 1996 Champion Hurdle winner, Collier Bay

## CHELTENHAM

HYPERION

4.05 You're Agoodun (nb) 2.20 Relkander 2.55 GIGI BEACH (nap) 4.35 Dictum 3.30 Wilmott's Fancy 5.10 Edwarda

calloonic course with stiff fences. Uphili run-in of 240vd. 盟 Lett-hand, galloping course with suff fences. Uphili run-in of 240yd 題 Course is fin N of lown off A435. Bus link from Cheltenham rail station (served by Brostol, Burminghem and London Paddington! 2m, ADMISSION: Club & Tattersalis combined \$12 (juniors, 16-24 years, £3); Courage Enclosure S5 CAR PARKS Free. 盟 LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 47-341 (138-), D Nicholson 34-240 (142-), N Twiston-Davies 22-228 (195-), J Gifflord 16-119 (134-), B Williamson 38-187 (209-), R Dunwoody 32-20 (162-9), M A Fitzgerald 23-176 (131-), Williamson 38-187 (209-), R Dunwoody 32-20 (162-9), M A Fitzgerald 23-176 (131-), B FAVOURITES: 218-548 (1985-), TONGUE STRAP: Raincheck (220), BLINKERED FRIST TME: Nelly Mac (230): Paratisandy (255); Shadirwan (405)

| ı |    |        |                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---|----|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| l | 9  | 20     | LYNX EXPRESS NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE                                                                                                                                        |
| i |    | .20    | (CLASS D) £8,000 2m 5f Penalty Value £5,836                                                                                                                               |
| l | •  | 53236  | REAGANESQUE (USA) (18) (D) (Mrs John Speirran) P Murphy 7 II 10 R Farra                                                                                                   |
| I | 2  | 262021 |                                                                                                                                                                           |
| ı | 5  |        | ACT IN TIME (28) (CD) (Mrs G C McFerrani T George 7 tt 8 R Walds                                                                                                          |
| ı |    |        | ZAITOON (75) (Chartenham Racing Ltd) D Nicholson 8 tt 8                                                                                                                   |
| i | 5  |        | CARDIAC ARREST (14) (David Zelfman) Miss H Knight 6 11 7 M A Fitzgera                                                                                                     |
|   | 6  | 027521 |                                                                                                                                                                           |
|   | 7  |        | PRIDE OF KASHMIR (21) (D) (Frank & Ocely Berry) P Houbs 6 11 0 G Tormey                                                                                                   |
|   | ė  |        | RAINCHECK (341) (D) (Mrs Georgina Worsley) M Campion 8 tt 0                                                                                                               |
| l | 9  | P2P I3 | MIR JERVIS (65) (Felix Rosenstiel's Virdow & Son) J Gifford 10 to 12                                                                                                      |
|   | τ  |        | GRATE DEEL (9) (D) (Airs M Ashby) Mrs S Smath 9 to 11                                                                                                                     |
| l | t. | 1      |                                                                                                                                                                           |
| ı | 2  |        | HEAD FOR HEAVEN (11) (Foray Racing And Nam) R Hoad 9 10 8 J R Kewaras                                                                                                     |
| l |    |        | RELKANDER (18) (18) Maureen Euckley) Mrs J Riman 9 to 8 N Williamso                                                                                                       |
|   | ĸ  | 61F4P3 | CLOD HOPPER (21) (T J Parrell)   Williams 9 to 8 A Magua                                                                                                                  |
| l | 15 |        | KELLY MAC (11) (Mrs V O'Brieri) D O'Brieri 9 10 7                                                                                                                         |
| l | 76 | PO-FP3 | TIRLEY GALE (18) (Dorald Smith) J 5 Smith 7 to 0 R Widger (                                                                                                               |
|   | Ţ  | PP-35P | CHERRY ORCHID (9) (E O Steward) J R Hughes 12 10 0 J Mogford (                                                                                                            |
| ١ |    |        | - 17 declared -                                                                                                                                                           |
| l |    |        | pt. 10st. True handicap weights: Triley Gale Sal Sib., Cherry Orchid Sal 10th.<br>Bullandon 6.1.5 met., let. 7.1. Martino, 8.1. Zeitean, Specialists, Gette Dayl. 10.1.1. |
|   |    |        |                                                                                                                                                                           |

3ETTING: 5-1 Reflander, 6-1 Santa Jet, 7-1 Montroe, 8-1 Zattoon, Specialize, Grate Deel, 10-1 Act in Time, Head For Henren, Timey Galle, 16-1 others 1989: Flat Top 7 to 10 R Thomson 11-2 (M W Easterby) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

Reaganesque: Ruming moderately since beating Kety Mac 2 lengths from 4th lower at Leicester (2mdt hoap, soft) in Feb. Difficult to fancy Montroe: Progressive and reliable; beat Woodlands Beau 11% lengths at Folkestone (3m2) nov. good) on latest start, but has been done no tavours at the waights. Act in Timer: Smart 2nd to Looks Like Trouble at Sandown off this handicap mark be-Act in Time: Smart 2nd to Looks Like Trouble at Sandown off this handicap mark before lating when 23 lengths 5th of 21 to Deepaydee have pim arrat, good, Every chance
Zathoon: Consistent sort whose in lengths 2nd to Brother Of this at Doncaster (Sm
hcap, good to soft) off this mark is working out. 75-day absence a concern
Candido Arrest: Yet in fulfil promise of 9 lengths 2nd to Tiraldo at Stratford in Dec.
pulling up atter travelling well in good company at both Lecester and Ascot
Specialize: 15-length winner from Dovetto at Unboster following decem efforts in lowgrade handcaps. Likely to find things lough under 5th penetry in this better company
Pride Of Kashmir: Easy early-season Plumpton winner from 10th lower in handicap
ratings and later placed off this mark, but little sparide on comeback last month
Ratingheetic Point-to-point and Folkastone hunter chases invented sets month. Ratischeck: Point-to-point and Folks, but with spanie on comeracities more flatteneck: Point-to-point and Folkstone hunter chase winner last term. Liftle appeal Mr Jervis: Winner of modest Fontwell novice in January. Dropped 2lb since latest 29 lengths 3rd to in The Blood over same course, but that hardly looks sufficient Grate Deet: Should find this thro latest after failing to get 3m at Doncester and Wether-by, but will be pressed to reverse latest running with Sanita Jet even on 5tb better terms. Sanita Jet: Furner-up 5 times before beating Grate Deet 27 lengths at Wetherby (Sm2) hcap, good). Possibly flatitated by latest effort (previously looked exposed). Head For Heaven: Fortived scorer from Smart Guy last month and well in here on subsequent 27 lengths 4th to Native Charm at Sandown, but tell at Plumpton least. Relitander: Not really living up to promise of early-season Leocaster win over Charming Grt. Well enough handicapped, but jumping could be a problem on the stiff course Clod Hopper: Will need something better than latest 3 lengths 3rd of 9 to Dovetto at Chepstow (2m3) hcap, good to soft) to take a hand. Keltly Macc. Yet to build on tar 3rd to Perryman at Ascot 3 year ago. Einkered first time after sense of placings in modest company but makes title appeal. Tirley Gale: First form when 21 lengths 3rd of 7 to Cheerful Aspect in strong Warwick 2m44 nov chase (good) latest. Well readed on that form and could be each way value Cherry Orchitz. No obvous chance from 180 but of the handicap.

VERDICT: These lences hold no terrors for ACT IN TIME, who turned in an fine display to be 5th to Deejaydee in the National Hunt Chase last month and looks on :

2.55 GOLDEN MILLER HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £12,000 3m 2f 110yds Penaity Value £8,247 P53-PF FATHER SKY (F37) (C) (D) (Kerneth Kornleid) O Sherwood 3 to 0 National Picture (National Pictur

BETTING: 7-2 Coole HR. Gigi Beach, 9-2 Kimahata, 13-2 Moorland Highliyer, 8-1 Mahnoo tie, 9-1 in Truth, 10-1 Parahandy, 12-1 The Gopher, 16-1 God Speed You, 20-1 Father Sky 1998 Kendal Cavalier 8 10 8 D Salter (5) 6-1 (8 Milman) 11 ran

FORM GUIDE

Forther Sky: in and out performer since Creations will east season from 5th higher. Returned to Flat after two unenthusastic chase efforts this term. The Gogher: In good form early in season and possibilities on 4 lengths 3rd to Linton Rocks at Chepstow (3m hosp, good to firm). Longer mp should suffled Speed Your Four-time score two seasons ago and winner from 2b higher last term. Jumped poorly on Sandown reappearance Easing ground is against firm. Mathrood Cestle: Capable of a bold show on Wincarton reappearance win over Saras Delight from 3to lower, but suked on latest start and ren a striker in this race last year Parahandry. Hit form enough this time last learn scoren as Frontied and Wincarton. Delight from 3th lower, but sulliced on latest start and ren a stinker in this rece last year Parahandy: Hit form around this time last year, scoring at Fontwell and Wincanton, but below best letely. Worth consideration with birrikers and Tormy Murphy In Truth; Kim Must winner last year, but feded back into 8th behind Cetic Gent in same race last month. Generally not in good enough form to take advantage of sip in weights Gigl Beach: On the upgrade with Exetier win and career-best length 2nd to Prime Example at Kelso Kim Incap, good. Could find the trip on the streng side Coole Hill. Back to form with 71-length win over Streit Moss til Wincanton (3m1/1 hcap, good) last month after lean spell. Still well handcapped on last sessor's form Kitinahalle: On upgrade with 6 lengths 2nd to Smerty at Uttoster and Towcester win from The Full Month; Plenty to find with Gup Beach on Exeter form Moorland Highflyer: Third handicap win of the season when beating Flapack Lad 8 lengths at Chepistow (3m2/1 hcap, soft), desprite step up in grade

VERDICT: This tro looks on the sharp side for the handly weighted Gigl Beach, so the issue could rest between the back to-form COOLE HILL and Parahandy David Nicholson's mare had a ton in hand at Wincanton and is still on a very lensent hand-cap mark, it she can avoid jumping errors, she could have the edge on binkered-first-time Parahandy, who appeared to go particularly well for Timmy Murphy last season and now has the talented inshman aboard for the first time this term.

FAUCETS FOR MIRA RADA 'NH' AUCTION NOV-ICE HURDLE (CLASS B) \$20,000 added C4 450217 MASTER RASTUS (22) (W Peto) Mrs S Willems 6 11 8 ... -0.031 KNOCKARA FAIR (69) (Air & Mrs R A Green) J Cherton 6 71 5 ... B Storey 41-219 STORM CASTLE (42) (N Comin) O Arbushnot 7 71 2 ... D Gallegher 20-22 FRANK BYRNE (213) J Fishrood) J Old 7 71 1 ... T J Morghly 503P CONNOR MACLEOD (67) (Arbolour Engineering) Mrs J Pitman 5 10 12 .. R Dunwoody 

Master Rastus: Progressive sort who followed Tauriton win with 15-length Uttraveter handicap success from Freddie Muck (3m heap,heavy). One to consider Knockara Falt: Confirmed promise of 6 lengths 3rd to All Gong at Doncaster when trouncing moderate field at Kelso (2m) last time. Longer trip should help Storm Castle: Outclassed behind Kates Charm at Chepstow last time, but beat Master Rastus a head at Taurion (3m) on previous start and 6to better off now Frank Byrne: Hefty amount to find on latest 5 lengths 2nd of 7 to Musical Sing at Exeter (2mt) now good in December, but yard now in better form Commor Macleoch: Disapportied on heavy at Uttorster latest, but distinct chance on previous 12 lengths 3rd to Kings Boy at Doncaster (2m4) nov. good to soft). Open to improvement and Durwoody booking looks significant. ement and Duriwoody booking looks significant.

I Hound: Barryor winner over Professor Cool. Something to find on latest 3rd s. Oats at Portheel (2nd help).

S Oats at Portheel (2ndt) good to firm) following lay-off. Longer trip could help. Foundar House. Sarryor writer over Hroteson Cool. Something to find on latest 3rd to Nerry s Catis at Fortivett (2m2) good to firm! following lay-off. Longer trip could help Ashgan: Improved for binkers when beating Burn Out 4 lengths at Huntingdon (2m5) maden, good to soff. but below best since. Possibilities with McCoy booked Gulfible Guy: Seemed to need all of 3m when beatin 2 lengths by Berlin Blue in a moderate nowce at Newbury (good to firm) last time. Improvement to find Wilmott's Fatincy: Clear form pick on latest 5 lengths 3rd to Flagship Therese at Newbury (2m5) reap, firms. Favoured by race conditions, acts on any going

VERDICT: It is hard to see beyond WILMOTT'S FANCY, who appeared to be maintaining her form admirably at Newbury last time and is thrown in under race conditions. Only if a busy campaign finally takes its toll does the promising Connor Macleod

| 4  | .05                | MITTE GROUP NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D)<br>£7,000 added 3m 110yds Penaity Value £5,425 |
|----|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ť  | 142241             | LADY OF GORTMERFRON (36) (C D) (Chelt Racing) N Trisson-Davies 7 ft 18 C Lientallyn         |
| 2  | 13704              | HOLBORN HILL (30) (D) (JE Srown) C Marn 7 11 5                                              |
| 3  | 25321              | YOU'RE AGOODUN (106) (J S Lammeran) M Pipe 7 m 2 A P McCoy B                                |
| 4  | 5-41P1             | YORKSHIRE EDITION (9) (Robert Ogden) P Nichols 6 to 1 (7ex)                                 |
| 5  | 3223               | SILK VESTMENTS (21) (Mrs.) M.F. Cittleri) Miss V. Williams 7 10 13                          |
| 6  | 02-344             | DIE FLEDERMALIS (142) (BF) (Lady Vestey) Miss H Knoth 5 10 11 M A Fitzgerald                |
| 7  | 0-033              | GONE BALLISTIC (19) (Mrs B J Lockharti D Notobson 6 to 7                                    |
| 8  | <sup>1</sup> 43334 | GREYCOAT BOY (36) (N W Firmston) J King 7 109L Cummins (3)                                  |
| 9  | 265401             | LTDERIX (26) (Mrs F Stevensor) T George 7 10 7                                              |
| 10 | 005544             | VELMEZ (18) (R Mathew) R Mathew 6 10 6 T J Murphy V                                         |
| 11 | 012550             | LEMIT THE DAMAGE (USA) (3) (John Whyte) J Whyte 7 to 2 A Magaine                            |
| 12 | (20-20)            | CIARA CANE (11) (Denns Deacon) A Carrol 8 to 1 O McPhall (5)                                |
| 13 | 234FP0             | HIGHLAND JACK (86) (D) (K Gabbons & B Carolli) A Turnel 9 100 R Ferrent                     |
| w  | 466505             | SHADIRWAN (SS) (C Popham) C Popham 8 10 0                                                   |
| 15 | 3-1250             | LATE ENCOUNTER (9) (D) (S ? Brown) R Brown 6 10 0 S Kelly (3)                               |
| 16 |                    | STATE FAIR (51) (Stoke Rattle and Prof) G Ham 5 YO C F Kenley (7)                           |

- 16 declared imum. 10st. Weights: Highland Jack 9st 12b, Shedirson 9st 10b, Late Enco Sift Vestments, Die Redermaus, L'Idefix, 10-1 others 1998, Ganpan 7 ft 7 C Llewellyn 5-2 fav (N Twiston-Davies) 12 ran

FORM VERDICT

There are question marks about the form of some of these but VELIMEZ has shown a decent level of ability in much better company and should stay this sort of trip. You're Agoodun has not been on a racecourse for more than three months

| 4 | .35          | PRESTBURY PARK HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 2m 5f 110yds Penalty Value £6,814 |
|---|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 321444       | L'OPERA (FR) (50) (Shekh Ahmed Al Maktoum) () Nicholson 6 ff 10                          |
| 2 |              | DARAYDAN (28) (CD) (D A Johnson) M Pipe 7 ft 5                                           |
| 3 | -5P520       | BETTER OFFER (28) (Seymour Cohn) Mrs A Perrett 7 tt 2R Dunwoody                          |
| 4 | P13F05       | CALL MY GUEST (25) (D & Mrs. J Geet R Psecock 9 104 N Williamson                         |
| 5 | 20003        | FALMOUTH BAY (28) (D) (V James 8 D Sammorth) E L James 10 10 2 . J R Kavarragh           |
| 6 | <b>42230</b> | CANTON VENTURE (148) (CD) (Dr Frank S B Chao) S Woods 7 100                              |
| 7 | -33C46       | DICTUM (42) (Mrs R A Humpirnes) Miss H Kingto 8 100 D Gellegher                          |
| В | -545tı       | KINGSDOWN TREX (9) (The Pental Partnersho) R J Smith 5 to 0 (Sex) J Goldstein (3)        |
|   |              | - 8 decisred -                                                                           |

immum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Dictum 9st 9tb, Kinsdown Tru 9st 3tb SETTINC: 5-2 Daraydan, 3-1 L'Opera, 5-1 Kingsdown Trix, 6-1 Call My Guest, 7-1 Better Offer, 8-1 Falmouth Bay, 16-1 Dictum, 20-1 Cardon Venture. 898: Spendid 6 11 8 A Magure 9-4 Inv (D Nicholson) 9 ran

FORM VERDICT

Darrayden finished ahead of BETTER OFFER at the Festival last month but this race may well suit the latter better and he is preferred. Dictum represents a stable return-

5.10 GEORGE DULLER NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 4YO 2m 1f Penalty Value £3,485

|        | BUUCU 410 ZIII II FERBILY VAIUE 20,400                                       |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|        | NEW BIRD (GER) (9) (D) (P E Cirico) D Nicholson 11 12                        |
| 1      | ALLGRIT (USA) (18) (D) (WE Start) J Old in 6                                 |
|        | MASAMADAS (19) (D) (Thurbe Thoroughbreds IV) N Henderson 11 6 M A Fitzgerald |
| 10501  | STOPWATCH (9) (D) (Supreach Partnership) Mrs L Jawel 11 5 A Maguire          |
| 362    | EDWARDA (26) (BF) (R Stanley & Y Reynolds) M Pipe # 1                        |
| 133624 | MOTHERS HELP (54) (Berkstone Commerce) Components Ltd) () Williams () 1      |
|        |                                                                              |
| 6      | I WISH YOU LOVE (95) (The Quiner) P Hoods 11 0                               |
| P      | SALFORD (79) (Silver Cod Partnersho) P Webber 11 0                           |
|        | - A silverth -                                                               |

BETTING: 9-4 Masemedas, 7-2 ARgmt, 9-2 New Bird, 11-2 Edwards, 13-2 Mothers Help, 8-1 Stopwetch, 16-1 I Wish You Love, 50-1 Safford

FORM VERDICT

MASADAMAS has every chance on the form of his Newbury win lest time, as long as the going does not become soft. That comment could also apply to Alignit, but the latter beat a poor bunch last time and Masadamas has more expenience over hurdles. New Bird and Edwards are from top stables and must enter calculations.

# Murphy faces ban

TIMMY MURPHY could face a breach they will suspend him lengthy ban if found to be in breach of the latest whip guidelines at an inquiry of the Jockey Club's Disciplinary Committee this morning.

Murphy was referred to Portman Square by the Aintree stewards over his use of the whip on Juyush, pulled up behind Istabraq in the Aintree

structions which took effect on 1 March this year, any jockey found to be in breach of the rules in a Grade or Group One race is automatically referred to the Jockey Club.

If the Disciplinary Commit-

for a minimum of 10 days. They will also have the flex-

ibility to choose on which days the suspension should apply, although it is anticipated that this power will be used only in exceptional circumstances. Murphy is the first jockey to be thus referred to the stewards

VFWM.

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of the Jockey Club for use of the whip in a Grade One race. In changes to the whip in-■ Tajoun repeated his 1998 success in the Listed Prix Right Royal on his reappearance at Maisons-Laffitte yesterday. The Aga Khan stayer's only defeat of last season was inflicted by the British pair, Arctic Owl and Grey Shot, in the Group Two

tee also find the jockey in Prix Kergorlay.

Going: Good To Firm

2.05: (Im 4f 3yo maiden stakes 2. All The Way ..... \_\_T Quinn 14-1 2. As The Way T Guinn 14-1 3. Time Zone P Robinson 11-2 Also ran: 15-8 fav El Mobashert, 5-1 ipiedgeallegiance (6th), 10-1 Court Of Jus-toc, 12-1 Emutabald (4th), 20-1 War Cab-inet (5th), 25-1 Challenges, 33-1 Zilarator. 10 ran. 3 is, 4, 3 is, 4, 8 (Winner chestnut Rilly by Diesis out of Princess Of Man, trained by H Cecil at Newmarket for HRH Prince Fahd Salman). Tote: £6.80; £2.40. £3.00, £1.70. DF: £42.10. CSF: £96.38.

3. Circle of Gold JFortune 6-1
Also ran: 6-1 Enemy Action (4th), 7-1
Alson to Destiny (5th), 8-1 Nout, 14-1 Anazing Dream, Lancene (6th), 20-1 Elway Star.
Frappe, 33-1 Sal Lodge.
It ran: 3, 74, 1, 14, rk. (Winner bay filly
by Be My Guest out of Save Me The Weltz,
trained by J Gosden at Newmarket for the
kirby Maher Syndicate). Tota: 54-20; £170,
£160, £210 DF: £1400, CSF: £1914.

...M Hills 13-2

2. Sartorial \_\_\_\_\_\_ D Hoftend 11-1
3. Heroic Blue \_\_\_\_\_ Pet Eddery S-4 fav
Also ran: 11-2 Istinta (4th), 13-2 Ran Rain
Go Away, 7-1 Susan's Pride, 12-1 Waterfront Go Away. 7-1 Susan's Price, 12-1 Wateringer (Sith), 16-1 Craegy Mountam, Delaauna (eth), 33-1 Royal Artsi, 60-1 Amber Brown, 11 ran. 7., 2 %, 5.1 (Wanner bay coll by Catrali out of Curche, trained by J Gosden at Newmarket for Sheilth Mohammed). Tote: C770; C210 E250, C10, DF, E5580. CSF- C103.22

1 Rouge Etolie 7 ran. 1½, 1½, 1½, 1, 1, Winner bey colt by Fust Trump out of Sound Of The Sea, trained by R Hannon at East Everleigh for the Lucayan Stud). Toth: win £350: places £230, £400, DF, £2450 CSF, £35.47,

J. Mixed Currency, 33-1 Grosvenor Flyer, Knockhoti (6th), Nisabis, Zincalo, 19 ran. '/- nd, 1, 1/-, 1 (Warner bay cott by Tenby out of Mirena, trained by L Current at Newmarket for H.H. Aga Khan). Totle: £2640; £560, £200, £150, DF: £7090, CSF £12458.

Jackpot: Not won: C3554213 carried for-ward to Newmarket today. Piacopot: C29630 Quadpot: C1420 Place 6: C30727, Place 5: C3682

FOLKESTONE Going: Soft (Good To Soft in places) IS: 1. PUSSY GALORE (A Daly) 9-2; 2. 5-2 tay Wars. 1½, ½, [D Bsworth, Whit-combe). Tota: £6.50; £2.10, £2.70, £110. DF: £2.290. CSF: £6.490. 2.15: 1. TWINER OSMASTON (J Saveça) 7-1; 2. Whatta Madem 14-1; 3. Dryad f1-2 far; 4. Polish Splitt 10-1. 16 ran. 1½, 2½. IB Hodges Sometral, Totar £680; £3.90.

(R Hodges, Somerton). Tota: £8.80; £3.20, £4.50, £1.90, £2.00. DF: £46.50. CSF: £88.87. Incast: ES37ERN TRUMPETER (K Darley) 5-1; 2. Landican Late 11-1 fay, 3. Westrala: 12-1, 12 ren. 4. 4. (J Bradley, Chepstow), Tota: 2580; EL70, E170, E250. DF: £1360, CSF; £1833, NR: Gochinos. DF: \$1360. CSF: \$1832. NF: Gochinos.
3.20: 1. POLAR MEST (Dean McKeown)
13-2: 2. Indian Bieze 3-1 tay; 3. Days Of
Grace 14-1.9 rtn. 1/s. /s. (Mrs. N. Macauley,
Melton Mowbray). Tons: £935; 2:230, £130,
£580. DF: £12.01. CSF: £24.75.
3.55: 1. MUKASOL. (R. Firench) 5-1; 2. Mr
Perry 33-1; 3. Swing Along 4-1. 10 ran.
Evens fav Desert Duke. \$5-10; 140.
£10. CSF: £44.60. CSF: £44.72.
4.25: 1. WONTCOSTALOTBUT (S. Whitworth) 6-1; 2. Durbane 6-1; 3. Tukane 4-1.

425: 1. WOM I COSTALDTBUT (S WIRT-worth) 6-1; 2. Durham 6-1; 3. Tukano 14-1 12 ran. 4-1 fav Doc Ryan's (Sth). 17, sh-hd. (M Wikinson, Barbury). Tote: £720; £10, £250. £970. DF: £3130. CSF: £4271. Tric-ast: £46598. MF: Pactauk. Philosophic, Pri-vate Faxture. Smiring Dances. 4.55: 1. APRIL STOCK (S Sanders) evens fav; 2. Pecaera 7-2; 3. Ravenwood Lady 8-1, 11 ran. 3%. 1%. (Mass Cay Kelleway, Lingfield). Tote: £150; £120. £120, £340. DF: £280. CSF: £467. MF: Culcitatep 5.30: 1. FOXES TAIL (S Drowne) 5-1; 2. Sweet Heward 10-1; 3. Zahe 8-4 fav. 13 ran. 3%, rk. (R Hodges, Sometron). Tote: £220; £370. £300, £10. DF: £280. CSF: £5807. Tri-cast: £13948. MF: Bevier, Burning, Placepot: £140.50. Quedpot: £5180. Place 6: £200.37. Place 5: £10074. worth) 6-1; 2, Durham 6-1; 3, Tul

EXETER Gong: Good To Soft 2.25: 1. ATLANTIC MIST (T O'Connor) 9-1; 2. Keep file in Mind 20-1; 3. Murray's Mil-iton 13-2 14 ran. 6-1 fav Northern Druns. 7, 3. (6 R Milman). Tote: 0950; 5220, 0550, 6220. DF: \$10140. CSF: \$16365. Tricast

255: 1. KENTISH BARD (C Llewellyn) 3.1 far; 2. Crookerdstone 9-1; 3. Primitive Star 10-1 19 ran. 3. 8. (N Gaseliee). Tote: £3.00; £190. £260. £270. DF: £2950. CSF: £2972. 3.30: 1. NORMARANGE (S Burrough) 12-1; 2. Ambleelde 4-1; 3. Mr. Playfull 14-1 10 ran. 5-2 fav Nature Charm. (4th.). Ni. 4. (P Rodford, Tote: £2180. £360. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190. £190.

en. 4,35: 1. WALTER'S DESTINY (Sophie A.38: 1. WALTER'S DESTINY (Sophie Michell) 13-2; Survise Special 6-1: 3. Daning King 15-1-13 ran, 11-2; I tave Snow Board, Supreme Genotin, 4, 1 (C. Mitchell). Tote: £650; £180; £280; £550; £70; £2450; £565: 1, LORD OF THE FLIES (M. Beitchell): 14-1; 2. Jelb 3-1 fav; 3. Falcon Ridge 10-1: 4. Sandoran 12-1; 18 ran, 11-1; 4. (Mess H. Kright). Tote: £24.70; £390; £100 £770; £270; DF: £8510; CSF; £6338; Tricast: £45838.

0:5888. 5.35: 1. KELLYS CONQUEST (A Bates) 7-2; 2. Ross Minster 12-1; 3. Harrity 4-8 fav. 18 ran. 13. 5 (J Mulirs), Tote: 6:390; 5:39, 5:240, 6:20, OF: 6:5580 CSF: 6:4327.

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# **BEVERLEY**

2.15 Wadi 2.45 Red Charger 3.20 Tom Dougal 3.55 Tara's Girl 4.25 Vals Whispa 4.55 Medelai 5.25 Silver Groom

GOING: Good to Firm, STALLS: Inside.
DRAW ADVANTAGE: high numbers best up to a mile.
If Right-hand, galloping course with very stiff 5/.
If Course is mt W of town on A v335 Bearefey station (Hull - Scarborough line) 2m ADMISSION: Cuto E14: Tattersalis £9 (OAPs £8), Course £2 (OAPs £150). Picmo area
20 or 22 per car, plus £2 per occupant, CAR PARK: Free
INLEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 27-22 (221%) J Berry 21-20 (175%), Nas M Revoley 15-60 (188%), T Easterby 13-26 (103%), ELEADING JOCKEYS: K Darley 38-191 (195%), K Fation 25-55 (63%), J Fortune 17-135 (128%), J Carroll 5-16 (129%), E FAVOURITES: 208-559 (372%), TONGUE STRAP: Dig For Gold (2.5), Kentucky Bullet (2.45): Opulent (5.25)
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Untold Riches (visored, 2.45).
LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER: Joely Green (3.55). Cowboys
And Angals (4.25) & Coral Reef (4.55) all sent 256 miles

2.15 SCARBOROUGH SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) \$2,500 added 1m 100yds

2532 ANONYM (13) (D) G M Moore 7 9 12. \_\_. P Coods (5) 3 53-004 GENUINE JOHN (13) (D) J Parkes 6 9 12... R Winston (3) 14 4-53-3 MR ROUGH (60) (D) D Morts 9 12... N Dey 7 8 60563. NODES D ARNES (166) (D) E Hoca 10 9 12... Kim Tinkler 2 9-0060 PINE RIOGE LAD (8) (C D) J L Harrs 9 9 12. R FitePaintot (5) 17 016-03 WADI (13) G McCourt 4 9 12 00000 FRECKLES (JB) M Fiyan 4 9 7 10 COCOD PRISCALES (A9) M Hygri 49 7

00000 THE WILD WIDOW (16) Miss S Witton 5 9 7 ... M Collon (5) 5

0 DIG FOR COLD (40) R Woodhouse 6 8 6 ... G Parkin 16

4 00-600 EASTLEIGH (26) (0) R Holinshear 0 9 5 ... A Culturer 8

5 - RISSIAN ROUGE (117) M Systam 49 1 ... D Mempa) (5) 6

8 5-2005 TOWNVILLE CEE CEE (7) G Woodward 4 9 1 ... D Williams 11

50 TIP THE BALANCE (317) Parkes 3 8 0 ... ... F Norton 1

- 17 daclared -BETTING: 5-1 Wadi, 6-1 The Wild Widow, 7-1 Anonym, 8-f Genuine John, 10-1 Desert Cal, Detroit City, Mr Rough, Freckies, 12-1 others FORM VERDICT

WADI has evidently had his problems but has the form to win in this company and should be suited by this drop in trip. The Wild Wildow is a danger if back to her best but she has not shown much on her last two starts. Geneine John is banded to reverse this months Musseburgh from with Anonym on the revised terms and holds a decent each-way chance. 2.45 WITHERNSEA HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3YO 7f 100yds

3C-1 LITTLE AMIN (15) (D) 1 9ethel 92. \_ . ...... | We 406-16 PRIDEWAY (18) (D) A Baley 9.2 . 004-4 ZULAL (USA) (13) (BF) E Dunco 9.2 . . . . 

BETTING: 9-2 Little Amin. 6-1 Zufal, 7-1 Kentucky Bullet, 8-1 Prideway, Montague Tigg, 10-1 Untold Riches, 6's Our Secret. 12-1 others FORM VERDICT

A typically tough early-season 3yo contest, complicated by ground and draw UNTOLD RICHES showed promise on her second juvenile start and, with her stable in good form, looks a Breity type now that she is handcapping in a viscit. Ken-tucky Bullet, in front of Phideway and Red Charger at Den-caster last month, is progressing well and is feared, along with the Dur Secret who shaped well against a well-handcapped. peak-form rival at Nottingham nine days ago

3.20 LECONFIELD CLASSIFIED STAKES (CLASS C) £9,000 added 7f 100yds 5204 GRANGEVILLE (USA) (179) (D) I Eaking 495 S Withworth 2 3020 - MUNDO RARO (195) J FoxGerald 435.\_\_\_\_ G Duffield 4 00005: GENERAL ACADEMY (JBS) M W Easterby 6 9 2 . G Parkin 8 2:40-5 LATALOMNE (USA) (20) B Elect 5 9 2 ..... R Winston (3) 5 

- 8 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Grangeville, 9-2 Serperaine, 11-2 Mundo Raro, 6-1 Tom Dougal, Yulara, 7-1 River Times, 12-1 Lazalorane, General Academy FORM VERDICT

More often then not a pays to side with a proven handicap-per in this type of event, and TOM DOUGAL gets the vote on that basis. He won his third and fourth starts last year, both lough handicaps, so he clearly comes to hand early, and he should be cherry noe after a fair run in the Lincoln Grangeville

3.55 HUTTON CRANSWICK MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (E) (DIV I) £3,500 2YO 51 GOUNG HOME JL Eyre 8 12 .... 3 GAIN TIME (16) TD Barron 89 .... LABRETT B Meeten 86 ..... BEST EVER M W Easterby 83 ... 

- 13 declared -BETTING: 3-1 Heathyards Led, 5-1 Kind Emperor, 5-1 Gain Time, 7-1 Clever Girl, 8-1 Tara's Girl, 10-1 Ours For Life, 12-1 Labrett, 14-1 others FORM VERDICT

LABRETT, who has plenty of speed in his pedigree and comes from a stable whose yourgoties are clearly well forward, is suggested despite reservations about his draw Tara's Girt, who holds Healthyards Lad on Heydock running, is the form pick and should relish this track, but her merit will be known to connections of newcomer Clever Girl, who trained her con-

4.25 HUTTON CRANSWICK MAIDEN AUC-TION STAKES (E) (DIV II) £3,500 2YO 51 VALENTINES VISION IN LIMITODE 12. T G INCLUSION IN 19
5 JENSENS TALE (5) Mrs A King 89 ... A Daily (3) 13
0 XENOS (11) M Charron 89 ... A Mackey 12
3 COWIDO'S AND ANCELS (14) W G M Tumer 86 . J F Egan 8
SAMMIE DURIOSE R Farley 86 ... R Winston (3) 6
4 VALS WHISPA (13) S Kertenel 86 ... J Carroll 11
5 HAPPY TRIES (13) M W Exclarbu 8.3 ... J Lucks 1 5 HAPPYTIMES (15) M W Easterby 8 3...... T Lucas 1 

- 13 declared BETTING: 7-2 Xenos, 8-1 Jenetts Tole, Vels Whispe, Desert Safart, 7-1 In The Nick, 8-1 Couckeye And Angels, 12-1 Seest Haven, 16-1 others FORM VERDICT

Mack Charmon's juveniles have been in good form and Xengs. who looked in need of the run at Haydock on his debut when in front of Sweet Haven, could easily leave that form a long way behind. Desert Satari is going the right way and anoth-er to consider but sight preference is for COWBOYS AND why were to consider but sight preference a for COWBOYS AND ANGELS, who showed plenty of promise when beginn only just over a length at Folkestone on his debut.

4.55 BRIDLINGTON BAY HANDICAP (E) £3,750 added 3YO 1m 4f 0008-1 COMPTON AMICA (14) G A Butler 97. .... 0803-6 FLY LINE A BIRD (14) S Woods 91 04306- SCOOP (163) S Kettlewell 8 13 000-0 SADDLERS' GLORY (14) C Farture 8 11 . I Grant 40210- MEDELAI (165) J Bettel 8 9 em (7) 11 .... J Weaver 8 06080- BOLD FELICITER (198) D Molfati 7 10 000- GILLY WEET (158) R Holinchead 7 to 

Minimum. 7st 10th. True weights, GBy West 7st 5th, Parisienne Hill 7st 5th. BETTING: 9-4 Compton Amica, 9-2 Fly Like A Blird, Medelai, 11-2 Coral Reef, 8-1 Shop Window, 12-1 Scoop, 16-1 Dispoi Trump, 28-1 others FORM VERDICT

duessing game for punters at this stage of the season, with so many numers open to considerable improvement for a step so many runners open to considerable improvement for a step up in trip. Tim Easterby won a similar event with Purit Pointer at Catterick recently, and since SHOP WINDOW ran her er al Catteriok recernly, eric sense preser and stell to stell, she best race first time out last year and she's bred to stell, she best race first time out last year and sheateled the rebook worth gets the vote. Compton Amica and Medical are others we

5.25 HORNSEA HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,250 added 1m 2f .P McCabe R 0410 MARSKE MACHINE (193) (CD) N Texter 4.3 1 G Duffield 2 B 550-0 KONKER (7) (CD) G M Moore 4.9 10 F Lynch 5 0550-0 CPULENT (16) (C) Mrs M Procedure 4.9 10 F Lynch 5 0550-0 OPULENT (16) (C) Mrs M Reveloy 8-8 9 ... J Weaver 10 02005 SELVER GROOM (114) (D) M Channon 9-7 13 ... A Mockey 3 10 - 5540 VINCENT (37) J L Harrs 4 7 10 . . . . A Micholla (5) 9

Menimum weight, 7st 10th True Handschuter Weight, Vincent 7st 2th BETTING: 9-4 Top Jem, 5-1 Silver Groom, 6-1 Konker, 7-1 Tottem Duncer, 8-1 Night Physi, Jadi Knight, 10-1 Merske Machino, 12-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Mick Ryan does well with handicappers once they hit lorm and TOP JEM has an obvious chance on her recent wins and for was an authoric change on his recent wing. The forecast ground would be faster than she prefers, but she does handle if and the opposition make brilled appoal, Konker could go well, while Marske Machine and Opulant are others with chances.

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As a manning of 10 days

# Valentine an inspiration · for Dettori

conditions here on the July Course yesterday there was a rude shock. All 33 of Newmaket's racedays this year will take place at the summer course as the Rowley Mile venue's grandstand is rebuilt in time for the millennium Guineas. This should have been good news, a move from the whistling winds on the open grassland to the lower-lying. wooded haven. The fixtures, however, are not the only element to have been sent down the hill. Yesterday's weather was borrowed from the old place, the sort of conditions in which car manufacturers test the aerodynamics of their new

There were none of the customary thunderflies in the air. rather the noise from crows nesting in the paddock-side trees. The sky was the colour of a miner's bath. There was nothing July about this setting

It was into this unwelcome sent out for the first meaningful Classic trial of the season, the Nell Gwyn Stakes. Having spent the last six months looking at great beasts of the National Hunt field it was rather odd to see these delicate ornaments brought before us. They her stamina stretched, weakwere preposterously leggy, the ened to finish fourth.

FOR THOSE expecting element BY RICHARD EDMONDSON at Newmarket

> sort of young things that do not get out of bed in the morning for

less than £10,000. Among these pretty little things Circle Of Gold, Ellway Star and Valentine Waltz were conspicuously diminutive, the sort of things you might get out of a cracker. For two of them at least, appearances proved de-

Hawriyah, Ski Lodge and Amazing Dream were line

ceptive.

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Haami

(Newmarket 2.35) NB: Epsom Cyclone (Newmarket 2.05)

abreast for the first half of this contest, but it was Enemy Action, looking like Sooty with measles in the Cliveden Stud colours, who looked the dangerous stalker two furlongs out. Then, though, the greenenvironment that 11 fillies were and-white-striped livery of Frankie Dettori on Valentine Waltz squeezed along the rail and the contest was over. John Gosden's filly was three lengths clear at the line. Hawriyah was second, Circle Of Gold a fast-finishing third and Enemy Action,

The mighty cohorts of Godolphin and Aidan O'Brien's Irish operation have yet to toss forward their great hopes, but now the home guard has started to assemble. From a morning 50-1, Valentine Waltz is down to 16-1. "She's improved and she's worked well this year, a lot more enthusiastic than she was last season," Gosden said. "I think she'll get a mile and she deserves to go straight to the Guineas. She'll be a better filly on faster ground."

The doomsters have been preparing a shroud for Stanley House for some time now following Sheikh Mohammed's decision to concentrate resources on Godolphin and thus deny Gosden some of their prime bloodstock. The trainer's response has been quick and successful, "We've got about 25 horses that are going really well, doing easy work on the bridle," he said. "And when they come right like they have done it's great.

"At this time last year the horses looked very well but they all ran flat so we're taking advantage of this. Long may it

It appears the filly may be ridden here on Classic day by Dettori, as Godolphin commitments that weekend at the



To the backdrop of Newmarket's giant screen, Frankie Dettori and Valentine Waltz (right) beat Hawriyah (centre) in yesterday's Nell Gwyn Stakes

Italian expects a decent effort. "Any filly that wins a trial by three lengths has to be a live candidate," he said. "I think she'll run a big race."

We will see more of Frankie Dettori this season as he tries Kentucky Derby are likely to be to erase the memory of a bad filled by American jockeys. The campaign numerically and in-

dividually in a single, ghastly night at the Breeders' Cup. "Last year I was trying to look after myself perhaps too much." he said. "I was trying to avoid getting suspended or injured, but, at the end of the day,

that's really not my style. I felt

I had a lot more to give at the

end of the season." This year. in November, he expects to

1.000 GUINEAS (Neemarkel, 2 May): Corat: 9-2 Mcreva 6-1 Erzaar, 8-1 Sun-spangled, 10-1 Mcraer of Pearl 12-1 Blue Coud, 4-1 Catends & Warmabe Grand, 5-1 Valentine Watts: Ladbrokes: 4-1 Moswa, 6-1 Etizaaz, 7-1 Sunsangled, 12-1 Catendo 8 Mother Of Pearl, William Hill: 4-1 Moswa, 6-1 Etizaaz, 6-1 Sunspangled, 10-1 Mother Of Pearl

# Salty Jack whets the appetite

THE FREE HANDICAP is often BY GREG WOOD thought to be the poor relation among the Classic trials at the Craven meeting, but 12 months ago it came into an unexpected inheritance from a long-forgotten aunt. Racegoers headed away from Newmarket at the end of the week with thoughts only for Xaar, who had just won the Craven Stakes, but it was Desert Prince, the Free Handicap winner 24 hours earlier, who turned out to be by far the best horse to appear at the meeting. His next four outings were all in Group One events and he won three, and finished

second in the other. It is a thought to bear in mind when examining this year's renewal, which as usual does not appear to be overflowing with potential champions. It is not even all that flush with runners, and just six will go to post, which will not please its new sponsor, the bookmaker Victor Chandler.

Bertolini, the runner-up though a distant one - to Lujain in the Group One Middle Park Stakes last season, will be a popular choice, particularly after the success of John Gosden's runner in the Nell Gwyn Stakes yesterday. Vision Of Night, though, was only narrowly beaten into third in the Middle Park.

and is now 2lb better off. watched without the bias of a bet, although Undeterred (3.10), who was improving fast at the end of last season, may offer a small slice of value. The same goes for the Earl of Sefton Stakes, although there is a parhere in Shiva. Henry Cecil's the Golden Miller.

NEWMARKET

ty in taking up a prominent posi

seemed a favoured part of the

challenge. Epsom Cyclone

safest bet here looks Frankie

TERRED's final run last season

ta win over 6f at Yorkr) has been

franked since and this colt can

surprise the runners from the

track, however, there is a slight doubt over his stamina. In con-

woo over 1m6f in soft ground at Nottingham at the end of last

bigger yards.

in with this five

stands side a chaoce.

four-year-old has obviously had her problems, having raced just once, but that single winning appearance, in a Kempton maiden, promised much.

She has plenty of catching up to do in terms of experience. however, and is unlikely to start at a worthwhile price today (although Cecil did have a winner at Newmarket vesterday who drifted all the way to 8-1). Stick instead to the handicaps, and in particular SALTY JACK (nap 2.05), who was a little disappointing on his last run last year but did not have Ray Cochrane in the saddle that day. Cochrane had previously won twice on Salty Jack who may not have stopped improving yet, and he is back on board today.

Rainbow Ways will probably head the market for the 12-furlong handicap, having won his last three races since being fitted with blinkers, including one over this course and distance. He may meet his match. though, in Mark Johnston's Alberich (next best 3.45), who is very lightly raced and could develop into a fine staying handicapper.

Cheltenham begins its penultimate meeting of the season with something of a whimper, although the novice This is probably another of hurdle, with £20,000 in added those early trials which is best money, is a prize worth having. Plan A is to try and persuade your bookmaker to lay a price about a trainer called Williams winning it, which would cover five of the nine runners, but if that fails, Wilmott's Fancy (3.30) is probably the one. Gigi ticularly interesting runner Beach (2.55) should go close in

## NEWMARKET

HYPERION

3.45 Wave Of Optimism

1.35 Whispering Wind 2.05 Saity Jack 2.35 Handsome Ridge 3.10 Undeterred

4.15 Musical Treat 4.45 Indeedydo 5.20 Cloudy Sky

RAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers probably best up to 1m. ■ Right-hand course with 1m straight (July course)
■ Course is SW of town on A304. Bus link from Cambridge and Newmarket railway stations. ADMISSION: Ctub enclosure \$16 (nati-price 18-25-year-olds); Grandstand & Paddock enclosure \$11 (18-25-year-olds & OAPs, £6); Family enclosure \$3. CAR PARK:

FIVE-YEAR RECORD

# LEADING TRAINERS: H Cod 21-95 (25.3%), J Gooden 21-118 (17.8%), J Dunkop 21-120 (175%), L. Cumenti 17-116 (147%). III LEADING JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery 35-172 (203%), L. Dettori 33-181 (205%), R Hills 26-106 (245%), K Falton 20-79 (253%).

III FAVOURITES: 186 was from 507 races (success rate 36.7%)
TONGUE STRAP: Tumbleweed Ridge (2.05); Haumi (2.35); Gold Angel (4.15).
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Glary Of Grossvenor (3.45).

1.35 WOOD DITTON STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV I) £7,000 added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £5,020

CAPTAIN BLIGH (M Tabor & Mis John Magner) Sr M Stoute 9 0 \_\_\_\_\_ S sanders 12
HEGH (KOYLAND LIP Hardman) R Harnon 9 0 \_\_\_\_\_ R Haighes 1
KEZ (Derms Yardy) S Woods 9 0 \_\_\_\_\_ Dene O'Neill 2
KUWART BIRD (Greenfield Stud) K Mahdi 9 0 \_\_\_\_\_ J Guiden 6
MANNDAR (H H Age Khart) L Cuman 9 0 \_\_\_\_\_ J Grotene 4
PARKSIDE (The Perisade Partnership) W Mar 9 0 \_\_\_\_\_ J Grotene 4
PARKSIDE (The Perisade Partnership) W Mar 9 0 \_\_\_\_\_ J Gosden 8 0 \_\_\_\_\_ L Datbort 9
WHSEPSERG WIND (Lista) (Sheikh Mchistmaned) J Gosden 8 0 \_\_\_\_\_ L Datbort 9
WHSEPSERG WIND (Lista) Desmell C Britten 8 0 \_\_\_\_\_ P Robbreson 7
FORTUNE COOKE (D'S JJohn Coler & Ms S Colled) J Forshave 8 9 \_\_ R Cochrane 11
MISSHOR RAS J A Prescotti W Jarva 8 9 \_\_\_\_ M Yebbatt 8

998. The Sandilly 8 9 M Hills 20-1 (B Hills) drawn (20) 19 ran

FORM VERDICT

Several of these are bred in the purple but the big-race entries of SWAN KNIGHT, coupled with John Gosden's record in this event, suggest he should go well today. Capitain Bilgh and Marindar make plenty of appeal on pedigree, too, while Whispering Wind comes from a yard whose Syos are in fine form.

2.05 GRANTCHESTER RATED HANDICAP (CLASS B) £14,000 added 7f Penalty Value £8,595

...R Halls 4 105 | Common | C

Minimum welgis: 8x1 4fb. True handicap wergins: No Ednas 8x1 3fb, Showboat 8x1 2fb, Temeraine 8x1 1fb, BETTING: 8-1 DaySgirt in Dubat, Stanott, 9-1 Harmonic Way, 10-1 Al Muzilim, Return Of Amin, Salty Jack, 11-1 Epsom Cyclone, Showboat, 14-1 Emerging Market, Free Option, Kurnett, 16-1 Daumting Ledy, Tumbleweed Ridge, 26-1 No Extras, 33-1 others 1998 Turntalermead Photoe 5 9 3 M. Tetatutt 14-1 (B. Maesharr) dirawn (12) 15 nan

## FORM GUIDE

Kumeit: Won a condeons stakes at Yarmouth (6k good) in September and earlier very good second here (7k firm) in Buribury Cup. Not quite at best so far on soft surface, but would have a fine chance it going dired out. Usually a front runner Tumbleweed Ridge: Has gone badly off the boil in each of last two seasons, but start-tumbleweed Ridge: Has gone badly off the boil in each of last two seasons, but start-tumbleweed Ridge: Has gone badly off the boil he path of the form 3 facts on ed his 1998 season with wins in this race (4th higher today) and Irish Group 3. Acts on

is som use saled Stanoth: Won Folkestone maiden (71, soft) and listed race at Rome (tim, good to firm) as 3yo. Fourth over im21 at Doncaster prompts womes about the drop back to 7 furlongs here Dounting Lady: Won the the Fred Darling Stakes at Newtoury (7.35, soft) 12 months

ago. Comparable form in 1000 Guneas and Coronation States. Disappointing after-wards Stable struck form at Newmarket yesterday Grammy's Pet: Chances on pick of his form, but frequently follows good run with a poor one Neck second to Warmingtord at Warwick (7t good to soit). Described yes-terday by his trainer as a doubtful runner this afternoon

Astract Useful sprint form funproven at 77 on soft surface, but has seidom produced it over last two seasons. Below form this ferm on AW and in Kempton conditions stakes. From a stream yard. Al Muslim: Upped 4b in the handcap ratings after series of good efforts at 71 last

Au neutralini: uppers 4to 11 are nanocap roungs after series or good enters at 71 test term, including third of 25 to White Heart in a \$50,000 hendicap at Ascot. Twice good second on good to soft.

Return Of Arthir: Improved performer last season, winning at Pontefract (6t, soft) and good second in three handicaps afterwards, including to Safty Jack over 71 here. Daylight in Dubel: Has second in Britain, USA and France, in last-named season.

RACING SERVIO 0891 261 Daylight in Dubel: Has raced in Britain, USA and France, in tast-named last season winning a minor contest for Criquette Head but making little impact afterwards. Bookakers have proced this one up quite short in morning lasts. Emerging literiteit: As good at 71 as 6t but best on a sound surface. 1 b higher than when V-length second of 22 to Cadeaux Cher in the Great St Wifrid at Ripon Harmonic Way: Rather highly strung but mostly ran well last term at 6t/7t including in Burbury Cup and Stewards' Cup. Close third to Salty Jack final start. Acts on soft going. Stable yet to fire this season Preo Option: Much improved last autumn, winning a 20-runner race at Newbury (73t, good) in good style before finishing a good second (4tb higher now) over tim2f at Pontatriact.

Epsom Cyclone: Far sprint form, 3lb higher hare than when winning at Selisbury (6t, soft) in September by ½ langth. Ren poorly final start. Bred to stay 7 furlongs. first try today. Acts well on soft ground

Salty Jack: Won four times over this distance last season, coming from well behind in handicape on the last three occasions and beating Return Of Armin ½ length here (good) in the final one Omenta Cfry. Well handicapped, 4th lower in the handicap ratings than when close fourth in the Bunbury Cup, but hard to catch right and took some time to find his form No Extras: 180 higher than when winning here (7), good) last June. Mostly well below

from second half of last season. Lisually needs his reappearance outing. Acts on soft Showboat: Ran well in some big 71 handicaps tast summer, looking well treated now on 7th lower than his close soith in the Bumbury Cup Below form last lour starts, but has contisted competitive handicaps and cannot be ruled out. Temeraline: Won a maiden and classified stakes over 1m (good to firm) last summer, setting pace, for Amanda Perrett. Below form the season on AW and in the Lincoth Tentium: 7th out of handicap and stiff testion from the state has seasons but once.

m: 7th out of handicab and stiff task on form of last two seasons, but occa-

imbe: Had only three runs (in less than 2 months) for Luca Cumani last summer, winning Beverley maiden (71, good to soft), 50-1, 18th of 24 in the Lincoln VERDICT: The racing here vesterday hinted strongly that an ability to handle soft ground and race up the far side would prove important. The horse who best fits this profile is RETURN OF AMIN, indden by Richard Quinn who cannot be bettered for his tactical astuteness. A) Muslim has good form on good to soft, while several inte tenders with a high draw to overcome include 1998 Fied Darling winner Daum , Turnbleweed Ridge, Epsom Cyclone and the progressive Salty Jack

2.35 WEATHERBYS EARL OF SEFTON STAKES (Group 3) (A) £35,000 1m 110yds Penalty

|   |        | 49116 255 <sup>4</sup> 30                                     |                  |
|---|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
|   | 41210- | HANDSOME RIDGE (122) (D) (Plett Promotions) J Goeden 5 6 13 . | .L Detton 10 12  |
|   | 3/244  | ALBOOSTAN (268) (D) (BF) (Hamdan Al Maktoum) B HBs 4 8 10 .   | M HNS 2 11       |
| ı | 3130-U | DOWER HOUSE (9) (D) (Lord Howard de Walden) W Jarvis 4 8 10   | W Ryzn 5 10      |
|   | 63303- | DUCK ROW (187) (D) (BF) (Duke of Devonstore) J Toller 4 8 10  | S Sanders 8 11   |
| i | 53446  | GREEN CARD (USA) (165) (D) (P K L Chu) S Woods 5.8 10 .       | Pat Edglery 9 11 |
|   | 50221- | HAAME (USA) (180) (C) (Harrdan Al Makicum) J Dunlop 4 8 10    | .RHMBa3 ≀¹       |
| • | 13314- | LEAR SPEAR (USA) (180) (D) (R Tooth) D Elsworth 4 8 10        | T Quinn 4 11     |
| • |        | WHITE HEART (20) (D) (Maktourn Al Maktourn) M Johnston 4 8 10 | D Holland 7 B 17 |
|   |        | DIAMOND WHITE (9) (C) (P P Scott) M Ryan 4 8 7                | R Price 5 10     |
| 0 |        | SHIVA (JPN) (319) (Marchos Family) H Ceci 4 8 7               | K Fallon 1 78    |
|   |        |                                                               |                  |

BETTING: 7-2 Hazzni, Handsome Ridge, White Heart, 11-2 Shiva, 8-1 Duck Row, 10-1 Alboosten 12-1 Lear Spear, 14-1 Green Card, 33-1 Dower House, 40-1 Diamond White 1998. Apprehension 4 6 t0 D Holland 16-1 (D Loder(FR)) drawn (f) 7 ran

## FORM GUIDE

Handsome Ridge: Holds a very good chance on his wins in Group 3 events (tim, solf surface) at Doncaster (by 2 lengths from Princely Her) in September and Saint-Cloud Alboostan; Neck second to Border Arrow here (9), soft) 12 months ago, but lame in Alboosten: Neck second to Border Arrow here (#) soft! 12 months ago, but larne in Lingfield Derby That (#)\* lengths fourth to Winter Romance in That Scottish Classic Dower House: Got up near line in \$18,000 handcap at £psom (mc2, good) last June Rider unseated early on reappearance (first run since July). Needs to improve Duck Rowr, Sticth in 2,000 Guineas and third in \$1. James's Palace Stakes in both rim, good to soft) besten about 4 lengths. Only previous try over further was in the Eclipse Green Card: Won two tim conditions stakes last season and plenty of evidence that he is not guite good enough to win in this grade. Stays \$1 but would not want it soft Haunti: 2½ lengths fifth in the 2,000 Guineas. Very disappointing afterwards (wore tongue strap last 3 starts) before winning \$1 listed race here in good style from Mudeer Lear Snear Improved over \$1 here last hurs starts, wening the Cardinal starts and

strap last 3 starts) before winning 9f listed race here in good style from Mudeer Lear Spear: Improved over 9f here last two starts, winning the Cambridgeshire and fourth of 13 fless 3f/ lengths to make up on Haami) in listed race 13 days later White Heart: Win ISO000 handicap at Ascor [7], good), improved again with 2f/-length with from Generius Libra in Doncaster listed race (tim, good to soft) in March Diamond White: Busy in 1998 and useful form to win three times, but this is a big step up in class. Below form on AW this year but fair effort at Kempton [8f good) last Shilve: Well-bried fig. 7-4 lavounte, won 1f-numer madein at Kempton [8f good) last May comfortably by 2 lengths, but was not seen out again. Has plenty of potential VERIDICT: The progressive White HEART is proven on soft ground and that gives him the edge over Haamit (third of 5 on soft in the Solano Stakes as a 2yo) and Duck Ross (halles later). Ross (helow form on soft final start last term). Handsome Ridge, however has req

3.10 VICTOR CHANDLER EUROPEAN FREE HANDI-CAP (CLASS A) £30,000 3YO 7f Penalty Value £18,890

istered his best efforts on a soft surface and those put him bang in contemon.

2402: BETTOLIMI (USA) (195) (C) (Shekin Mohammed) J Gosden 9.7

2422: INDIANA LEGEND (186) (BF) (D 8 Johnston) 8 Meehan 9.6

4441: UNDETERRED (186) (SF) (D 8 Johnston) 8 Meehan 9.6

2715: VISION OF BERTT (195) (Hearnor's Stud) J Durlop 9.5

2716: VISION OF BERTT (195) (Hearnor's Stud) J Durlop 9.5

2221-0 (KALIDASA (USA) (11) (D) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hjorn 9.1

20104: CABALLERO (214) (Shekin Marwan Al Makhaum) C Brittan 8.12

P Robinson 3.115

- 5 declared -BETTING: 2-1 Vision Of Night, 11-4 Bertolini, 4-1 Undaterred, 9-2 Indiana Legend, 10-1 Kalidasa. 998. Desert Prince 9 5 O Pesifer 7-1 (D Loder) drawn (7) 9 ran

## FORM GUIDE

caster Indiana Legend: Took up the lead about 11 out but caught close home by Goldon Sica in Group 2 at Newbury and Undeterred in listed race at York, both over 6t Bred to Undeterrect Improved every start as 2yo, on final one coming with late run to best Indiana Legend by a head at levels in listed race at York (61, good). 7 furlongs will sur-

Vision Of Night: A progressive 2ya, winning a maden and a conditions stakes be fore his 4% lengths third of 7 (% length behind Bertolin) in the Middle Park. Will stay

Kalidasa: Punner-un tour irmes (notably in May Hill Stakes at Doncaster) before win ning Warwick maden as 2yo. Only seventh of 8 runners in Kempton listed race on Caballero: Stamma doubts on pediorea. Made all in a Windsor conditions stakes (6))

VERDICT: There is very little on form between Undergread and Indiana Legend from their clash at York last Octobor, performances which look all the better after the victory yesterday of the third home that day, Velentino Waltz, in the Net Gwyn Physi cally, both took the sort to do better this season, but Undeterred shapes as if he is the were, want soon we suit to up occurs with season, but Ungerered strapes, as if he is the more likely to be suited by the step up in thip. If should also, however help bring out further significant improvement from the Middle Pari. Stakes that VISION OF NIGHT who (along with Undeterred and Caballero) holds an entry in the 2,000 Guneas. There is little soft-ground form to go on.

3.45 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE/JOCKEYS ASSOCIATION HANDICAP (CLASS C) £9,000 1m 4f Penalty Value £6,492

4110-4 HAJR (11) (C) (D) (Maktourn Al Maktourn) E Dunlop 5 10 0 211- RAMEDOW WAYS (181) (CD) (Maintourn & Makkourn) 5 Hills 4 9 10
15/14- ALBERTCH (215) (D) LI D Jacob M Johnston 4 9 8
0221P- JUST IN TIME (199) (Mrs P Menck) T Mils 4 9 7 . . . DOCOTO BLURRED (9) (Mrs P M Kalman) M Tomplus 688

M Hufe 6 'c L Cartor 11 4

33622- MINIVET (166) (BF) (Sr Thomas Pilungton) M Bell 4 8 7 -0034- ST LAWRENCE (CAN) (245) (Saeed Manana) C 9main 5 8 5 0221-0 LANCER (USA) (20) (D) (C Marsh) J Pearce 7 8 5 T Quins 7 706 2500 GLORY OF GROSVENOR (205) IR Sangsten P Chappie-hyam 4.8.4. R Haviin 4.8.89 5350 BEAUMONT (ACS) (C) (D) (P Currengterm) Banks 9 6 2 . . . J Chairm 13 85 660-00 GENERAL ASSEMBLY (J11) (The Craftsmen) G Margarson 7 7 12 . R Pfrench 8 95

- 13 declared -BETTING: 4-1 Alberich, Rainbow Ways, 9-2 Hair, 6-1 Minivel, 8-7 Lancer, 12-1 Wave Of Optim 14-1 St Lawrence, 16-1 First Master, Just in Time, 20-7 others 1998 Raise A Prince 5.8 °C N Day 12-1 (S Woods) grawn (S), 21 ran

#### FORM GUIDE

High: Won at Goodwood and Epsom last summer (fin4), good to firm). 8th off this mark at Royal Ascot and again below form on reappearance, both on a soft surface. Reinbow Ways: Binkered, much improved last three starts to win maden and two handscaps at thirt on fast ground, two at Newmarket. Probably acts on good to soft Alberich: 4th higher than for win in rated stakes at York (fin4), good) in September on 1998 reappearance. Creditable eiton 8 days tate: Lightly traced and may improve Just in Time: Did not progress as amtopated as 3yo, but won 6-namer Goodwood maden (fin2) good to firm) by 15 lengths. Saddle stipped final start. Not certain to

Blumed: Decent handicapper in 1996, but well beaten only three starts in 1997 and did not run on Flat last year. Modest hurdles form before 10th of 13 on return to Flat First Master: Runner-up at Doncaster and Redicar (11), good to soft; same mark today) last Iwo turt starts as 3yo. Plan poorly last Iwo of five outings since on AW day) as two users as sure as syn had poorly as two in the dutings size of two Minimets (Pray win came unimpressively at 1-16 in a three-trumner maden [6] good to firm). Decent chance, however, on handicap form atterwards. Acts on good to soft \$1 turnerners Lightly-raced 5yo, well below form on 3 of 4 starts last year including in binkers! Below form so far at that but should stay Well beaten 5ch runs on soft Lancer: improved in 1m4 handicaps last year, but possibly flattered by writing margm at York final start. Shaped encouragingly on reappearance Probably acts on soft Wave Of Optimism: Made debut only last August. Placed in three maidens at 11f to in4t before winning one at Nortingham (tm6t, soft) in October by 3 lengths Glory Of Grosvenor: Farly useful on two runs as a 270 Achieved nothing in madens and a handcap n2to lower here; as a 340 Bred to be suited by timil. Becaumont: Breative under the conditions: 2to higher than last wroning many but that was from July 1997. Missed nearly all of last year and probably best waished here. General Assembly: Well treated on a couple of efforts (over 2m+) last May but went downhall atterwards. Modest hurdles form and little encouragement from AW Plat VERDICT: Effectiveness on a soft surface rules out most of this field and highlights the chance of WAVE OF OPTIMISM. The concerns with him are whether this will prove an madequate top and whether he is fit on his seasonal debut, but there are also blen

4.15 GEOFFREY BARLING MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £6,000 added 3YO fillies 7f Penalty Value £4,500

|     | 20,000 acoca o to inites / i charty talac 24              | 1000         |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 9   | CASSANDRA GO (197) (Trevor C Stewart) G Wrang 8 Till      | M Roberts    |
| 04- | CHAMBRE SEPAREE (USA) (165) (Mcs N. Rausing) G Wagg 5 Ti  | P Robinson   |
| 20- | DESDEMONA (190) (Cheveley Park Stud) G Wracy 8 TI         | D Holland 14 |
|     | EN SILENCE (USA) (Eddy Sibber J Noseda 8 11               | Pat Eddery 1 |
| 06- | FANTASTIC BELLE (198) (Or Carbs 5 Stelling) P Mai in 6 T  | S Sanders 13 |
|     | GOLD ANGEL (Maximum A) Maximum; 5 Dunion 3 n              | . W Rygn 12  |
|     | INSINUATE (USA) (* Abduda) H Getal 8 II                   | K Fallon 10  |
|     | MASS UNIVERSITY (USA) (Semaid Buth) C Wall 5 TI           | A Whelan 3   |
|     | MOSS ROSE (Mrs A D Soume) 8 Hat 8 TF                      | _ MLH#187    |
| 2.  | MUSICAL TREAT (258) (F.E. Sandster) P Chapple Hyztr. 9 77 | J Fortune 12 |
| 9-  | PEARL BARLEY (190) (Society Marronn) C Britain 8 ft       | T Sprake F   |
| 64- | RIMBA (USA) (250) (Learge Stramproge; J. Bosden & Ti      | L Dettori s  |
|     | SPOONFUL OF SUGAR (158) (W.) Grades) C Cyraf 8 ft         | T Quinn (    |
|     | SULALAT (312) (Hamoso A) Uo' (num) F America 2 11         | A Hills :    |
|     |                                                           |              |

BETTING: 9-4 Musical Treat, 9-2 Remba, 13-2 Instituate, 10-1 Gold Angel, Suiplat, 12-1 Mosa Rose Spoonful Of Sugar, 14-1 others 1998: Sultana 3 6 17 R Pernam 50-1 (J G Smyth-Estiourne) drawn (TG, 15 ran

# FORM VERDICT

Institute and Gold Angel Not likely sorts on breeding, and Chambre Separee tooks the pick of the these Geott Wilding entries. However, the form horse MUSICAL TREAT has reportedly writered well and with her 1000 Guineas as

4.45 NGK SPARK PLUGS BARTLOW MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2YO fillies 5f Penalty Value £4.305 ERIN ANAM CARA Prayer Arts A Surg Sund) D Cosytine 8 To . . HOH DEAR (D.F. Albort) M. Belt 6 TI.

INDEEDVEDO (20) (Farmers Toamstei J Fearre 6 11 JANICELAND (Cable Meda Consutancy) 5 hattlewel 8 11 LADY SARKA (Thurbe Thomagrapeds N/I R Harmon 8 11 A Hughes NASAIEB (Saeed Marara) C enten 9 M NEVER DISS MISS MALA MISS A MARKETS & WORKING & TI ELL HILLS ! PUSSIE WILLOW (Major Cirrenbury) P Cole 6 77 SEAZUN (J Brestni M Charmon 2 11 # 9 declared -### BETTING. 7-2 Seazum, 4-1 Pussle Willow. 5-1 Indoedyado, Ludy Sarka. 8-1 Hofi Dear, Nesale

IC-1 Nover Diss Mpss. 12-1 others 1998 Jag 8 th 7 Quant 3-1 (P Code) drawn (9) Trus

## FORM VERDICT

Paul Cole took this 12 months ago and can repeal the lear with the speedly-bred PUSSIE WILLOW, the selected of his time-time-day entires. Seazum represents the Mos Channon yard that has already had hive winning sweriles, but she is still a fortungfit short of her second birthday. Hoh Dear and Nasaleb took the most otherest-

5.20 WOOD DITTON STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV II) \$7,000 added

| TO 10 Lills Létiforth Adige Ta'son                      |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| CLOUDY SKY (Lots Westston St U Struct 90)               | R Hills          |
| EASTERN CHAMP (USA) (Fix   Chair 5 Vidross 9 C          | J Fortune 1      |
| HARLEQUIN DANCER (CITS Racing Partiersho) J Gosder, 90. | . L Dettori      |
| KARINGA PRINCE (C.F. Sparrowt and 15 L. Mocie 9.0       | М Пореля         |
| OCTANE (USA) (Batham Turing Section 4 Ceal 9 C          | K Fallon         |
| ORO STREET (Ostaldo Pedroni 4 meteraty 9.0              | P Fredericks (5) |
| ROMAN CANDLE (Expressions SAM) A SAMBIORIO C MASS SIG   | A Whelen 1       |
| WOODCOTE WARRIOR A 5 Part of Shardon 9 9                | Dane O'Neill     |
| KERALBA (USA) (F ADDALT) 5 PEK 6 9                      | Pat Eddery       |
| SNOWY RANGE (USA) illegation of Share J Novecto 5 9     | W Ryen           |
| SPANKER (5.0 Holangsworm) E 1745 5.3                    | D Holland 1      |
| SWEET EMOTION (Martour) At Martour (# Except 6.9        | . G Carter       |
|                                                         |                  |

BETTING: 3-1 Cloudy Siry, Octave, 4-1 Keratha, 13-2 Spanker, 8-1 Eastern Champ. Harlequin Dancer,

## FORM VERDICT

Satisfy Hills has done seen in this same in society words and his Keralba is an interesting sort on paper but EASTERN CHAMP is also reported to have been working well and is pretented. The Stoute and Cool recommentatives. Cloudy Sky and Octane,

#### **HYPERION'S** 2.05: Kumait's rider, Richard Hills, should have little difficul-TV TIPS tion against the far rail, which

straight course yesterday. Fursupport if the threatened rains ther rain would harm this one's arrived in earnest. The Tote's chances, however. Soft ground offer of 14-1 attracts. would not inconvenience SALTY JACK. Ray Cochrane CHELTENHAM has established a great parter-

2.20: Richard Dunwoody's

is best held up for an ultra-late mount, Montroe, merits respect here, particularly as the grey is at his best in the spring, must enter the reckoning if soft-RELKANDER has taken time er ground gives those drawn to get the hang of fences, but displayed improved form to beat the well-regarded Heavens Above at Newbury last time. 2.35: Despite the presence of Duck Row, John Dunion's

Haami would be the chief ben-2.55: In Truth signalled that a eficiary of heavy rain. But the

return to top form was imminent when running well for a long way in the Kim Muir at the Chel-Dettori's ride, HANDSOME tenham Festival four weeks ago. But it's hard to ignore the claims of GIGI BEACH, a pro-3.10: The form of UNDEgressive stayer from a yard still maintaining a high strike-rate.

3.30: Ashgan is described as a quirky character by his trainer. but Tony McCoy will get the 3.45: Minivet appears to act on all types of ground and may well stay 12 furlongs. On this tough best out of this six year old, who ruined his chance with a slow start last time. However, Norman Williamson looks to be on the winner here. WILMOTT'S trast, WAVE OF OPTIMISM FANCY. This mare was not dis-

graced when third at Newbury last month, five lengths behind

## FIRST SHOW

season and would be worthy of winner Flagship Therese.

| Newmarket 2.05                           | Newmarket 2.35                                |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| C H L S T                                | C_H_LS_T                                      |
| Daylight in Dubai 7-1 10-1 8-1 7-1 13-2  | White Heart 7-2 7-2 3-1 7-2 7-2               |
| Harmonic Way 9-1 10-1 8-1 9-1 9-1        | Hazemi 75-3 7-7 3-1 4-1 7-2                   |
| Starpot 7-1 7-1 7-1 7-1 10-1             | riandsome Ridge 72 72 44 72 72                |
| Al Hustim 1)-1 12-1 8-1 10-1 12-1        | Shina <u>11-2 11-2 6-1 11-2 11-2</u>          |
| Epsorn Cyclone 10-1 11-1 17-1 12-1 11-1  | Duck Row 13-2 8-1 8-1 7-1 E-2                 |
| Return Of Amin 10-1 8-1 8-1 11-1 12-1    | <u>Alboostan 1G-1 B-1 11-1 B-1 B-</u> 1       |
| Salty Jack 12-1 9-1 10-1 10-1            | <u>Lear Spear</u> 10-1 11-1 10-1 12-1 12-1    |
| · <del></del>                            | Green Card 14-1 14-1 13-1 12-1                |
| Showboal 12-1 11-1 10-1 12-1 10-1        | Dower House 33-1 33-1 33-1 33-1 33-1          |
| Free Option 12-1 12-1 14-1 11-1 11-1     | Diamond White 40-1 40-1 33-1 40-1 33-1        |
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# Petit and Vieira can tilt the balance

IN ONE dressing-room at least, tain satisfaction from preservthe sight of Arsenal and Manchester United slugging each All the more so after battling other into a barren, bruising stalemate, necessitating their only 10 men following the almost return to Villa Park tonight to equally customary red card, in- one, can envisage going to 120 find out who will face Newcas- curred by Nelson Vivas. tle in next month's FA Cup final, was a cause for rejoicing.

It was not United's, where the incredulity of Alex Ferguson and his Treble-seeking side over the flag of inconvenience which ruled out a valid "goal" was compounded by the realisation that they would have to into an already congested

ing their customary clean sheet. through most of extra time with

No, the only real beneficiaries of Sunday's attritional struggle -with the arguable exception of United's European Cup semi-Chelsea. Gianluca Vialli's team went out to take on Wimbledon heartened by the thought of their principal rivals for the fit a sapping semi-final replay championship being forced to go through it all over again.

While the Premiership's top Nor was it Arsenal's, even if two lock horns once more, in a know about each other, he was



The main beneficiaries of the FA Cup semi-final replay at Villa Park tonight are likely to be Chelsea. By Phil Shaw

minutes and a penalty shootout, Chelsea have the chance to steal above them both at the top of the table by winning at Middlesbrough. For whoever loses final opponents, Juventus - were at Villa Park, the psychological impact could be doubly dam-

The United manager described the outcome of their first meeting as "a predictable result". In so far as there is little that the rival camps do not the Cup holders derived a cer- contest which Ferguson, for probably right. Yet the Double

winners have enjoyed such an unusually good record against the Old Trafford club - four victories and an away draw in the five previous meetings - that United's superiority on Sunday may have surprised even Fer-

The key to their dominance was the midfield axis of Nicky Butt and Roy Keane. Butt, out of favour recently, highlighted the depth of United's squad by combining his usual combativeness with some excellent

to be a far more even duel for control. Arsène Wenger welcomes back Emmanuel Petit alongside Patrick Vieira after suspension, and his biting presence and capacity for getting between the respective penalty areas should not only ease was an audaciously chipped the pressure on Tony Adams and company but provide

greater attacking impetus. Ferguson has pondered freshening up" his line-up. The only definite change will come at left-back, where Denis

Tonight, however, promises Irwin has a leg injury. Phil Neville is a ready-made deputy. though if it comes down to the lottery of spot-kicks, his penalty-taking prowess is unlikely to match Irwin's.

Talking of which, Dwight Yorke's last goal at Villa Park penalty over the diving David Seaman in what proved his final home game in the claret and blue. Such confidence typified Yorke throughout the autumn and winter but has deserted him of late. Since Sea-

man has now gone 673 minutes without conceding a goal, Ferguson needs the Tobagan to snap out of his spring languor as a matter of urgency. Marc Overmars, something

of a scourge to United prior to Sunday, would be a greater loss to the Gunners than Irwin to their opponents if he is indisposed by an injured ankle. The onus would then be on Dennis Bergkamp to give Nicolas Anelka stronger support. Bergkamp, though, must first escape the pocket Jaap Stam

The recent history of matches between the clubs, pitted by outbreaks of ill feeling (Ian Wright v Peter Schmeichel.

Wenger v Ferguson), favours Arsenal and a repeat of last year's Wembley date with Newcastle. But while United cannot match the Tyneside club's 52-year unbeaten record in semi-finals. they have not lost in 15 such matches (eight of them at Villa Park) since the late Billy Bremner decided a three match epic in Leeds' favour 29 years ago.

It appears to be a case of the immovable object, Seaman's fabled guardians, against the irresistible force of Beckham and Giggs, Keane and Cole, but tonight, something has to give. The longer it takes, the more the victors' celebrations are likely to be echoed on Chelsea's return from Teesside.

# European place for fair play

UNDER WRAPS at Premier By MARK BRADLEY League headquarters lies the most up-to-date league table in a competition that offers the chance of a coveted place in

Europe next season. rules of which are baffling in their detail, but it could still hold out a multi-million pound lifeline to clubs otherwise denied a route into the Uefa Cup.

While Sheffield Wednesday, Liverpool and Wimbledon may have thought European qualification was beyond them this a Premiership club would then season, they actually lead the way in the domestic league along with Manchester United and even Arsenal, despite the Gunners' tally of red cards.

In an attempt to foster the traditional spirit of the game, European football's governing body has decreed that three places in next season's revamped Uefa Cup will be on offer to teams with . Arsenal (7.98), Liverpool (7.95) the best fair play records.

Every game played by a country or club in European competition is painstakingly marked in six different categories - red and yellow cards. positive play, respect towards opponents, respect towards referees, behaviour of team officials and crowd behaviour.

This started almost two years ago and forthcoming games until the end of May still count - including Manchester United's European Cup ties and Chelsea's encounters in the

Cup-Winners' Cup. A record is kept of every country's average score and the leading nation gains an automatic place in the Uefa Cup, while a host of other high-scoring countries enter a ballot for two remaining places.

However, these European berths do not go to sides finishing high up in the Premiership, Serie A or the Scottish Premier League. They are given to the teams who win their country's domestic fair play league, disregarding any clubs who have already qualified by other means such as winning a cup.

In Uefa's most recent table from January. Scotland led the way - setting them up for an automatic European place if they keep ahead of the likes of Norway, Estonia and Finland before June - with Kilmarnock at the top of the latest domestic fair play league.

England, who suffered from Paul Ince's sending-off and shown to Liverpool and Arsenal and we deplore the actions of the

Unless England can top the table or by contrast fall by the wayside, they will therefore It is the fair play table, the enter the ballot in early June for the two remaining Uefa Cup

If successful, with a roughly 20 per cent chance of being drawn out of the hat alongside about 10 other countries with an average points tally of eight -England had 8.16 in January -'qualify for Europe.

The current full domestic table has not been revealed by the Premier League but the top five. as at 31 March, have been disclosed.

Manchester United are currently top with an average of 8.17 points out of 10, followed by Sheffield Wednesday (8.01), and Wimbledon (7.93).

. While red and yellow cards count against clubs, marks can be gained through attacking play, respecting refereeing decisions, helping injured opponents, being good winners or losers and fostering a healthy crowd atmosphere.

Observers are on hand to mark each Premiership game until the end of the season, so several clubs still have everything to play for - even if their chances of Europe may ultimately come down to a lottery.

The Tartan Army have been warned their future conduct could determine whether a Scottish club gains an additional

Uefa Cup place next season. The Scottish Football Association has stressed that Scotland's hopes of leading the European-wide fair play standings could be damaged by crowd conduct.

That comes after Scotland supporters at Parkhead last month jeered their own captain, Gary McAllister, and failed to observe the Czech Republic's national anthem. McAllister has since retired from international football but the SFA is concerned that any repetition of such behaviour from supporters will be counter-productive.

The Scots led Uefa's fair play rankings at the halfway stage of the season, meaning the team currently ahead in the list north of the border. Kilmarnock at the last count, would make Europe.

SFA spokesman Mitchell said: "Uefa base their list on all competitive matches



Dennis Wise returns from suspension tonight as Chelsea aim to go top of the Premiership with a win against Middlesbrough

# Vialli proud to be a contender

HAVING SIDLED up quietly on BY MARK PIERSON the rails in the title race, Chelsea have the chance to put themselves back into pole position at the top of the Premiership with victory at

Middlesbrough tonight Just a month ago, playermanager Gianluca Vialli miled out his side's chances of winning the championship after defeat at home to West Ham left them seven points behind Manchester United, even if they still had a game in hand.

Even two weeks ago, Chelsea were as high as 8-1 for the title as the two supposed heavy-weights in the field. United and Arsenal, contested the lead.

However a fifth consecutive away League win, at Boro, would take Chelsea top for the first time since early January and leave them a point small minority at Celtic Park clear of United, even if they third while Wales were 12th and which will have had an impact." would have then played a

game more than Alex Ferguson's side. As United and Arsenal pre-

pared for a second exhausting match within the space of four days in their FA Cup semifinal replay at Villa Park, Vialli was still continuing an apparently self-imposed vow of silence. Perhaps due to the furore over the gaoling of Graham Rix. perhaps to keep the spotlight off his team or to relieve the pressure on himself.

the normally loquacious Italian has missed press conferences. The coach. Ray Wilkins, has stepped in to meet the media over recent weeks in a tactic used by the Aston Villa manager, John Gregory, back in December when his side faced a perilous series of games against fellow title contenders.

And the situation has hard-

ly been helped by confirmation from Uefa, European football's governing body, that they would be reviewing a video of the incident in which Dennis Wise was seen attempting to bite the arm of Real Mallorca defender

Elena Marcelino last Thursday. Wise may incur a two-match ban that would rule him out of the Cup-Winners' Cup semifinal second leg as well as any possible final appearance if a disciplinary hearing is, as expected, held later this week. So with no Press confer-

ence arranged ahead of tonight's game, the only way of ascertaining Vialli's thoughts on his side's title chances was to scan his programme notes ahead of last week's tie against Mallorca.

In them, he stressed the importance of the sequence of four away games on which his side had embarked after the 1-0 de-

trying our best to keep up with Manchester United and Arsenal and so many away games makes things a little difficult." he wrote. "But looking at the way we've started the four, six points from the first two gives me confidence for the future. It's getting very tight up there

in the table and that's obviously very exciting for all the supporters. It's a great feeling and something to be proud of for the club still to be in contention." Having admitted Chelsea were indeed back in contention.

victory at Wimbledon last Sunday served only to confirm that fact and another away win tomorrow night would complete the four-match sequence. Boro, who still have to play

United and Arsenal at the Riverside, have only been beaten at home once this season in

feat by the Hammers. "We're Chelsea will travel full of renewed confidence.

Wise and Marcel Desailly. who missed the 2-1 victory at Wimbledon through suspension, will be available again to reinforce the spine of the team.

And midfielder Gustavo Poyet is set to start his second game since his return from a lengthy injury lay-off, having scored his 12th goal of the campaign at Selhurst Park to make him the club's second top goalscorer alongside Gianfranco Zola.

The full-back Albert Ferrer who came off injured against Real Mallorca but was an unused substitute at Wimbledon. may also be back in contention.

However, the midfielder Celestine Babayaro is likely to face a fitness test after missing the club's past four games with a groin problem and then a chest

Amato did score in the New Year Old Firm derby, but has remained an occasional substitute under Dick Advocaat. Earlier this term there was interest from Leicester in the player, but now Valencia are believed to be his most likely future destination. The man

next term.

Amato's Rangers' teammate, Lionel Charbonnier, has resumed training after knee ligament damage sustained in November, while the American midfielder Claudio Reyna, Rangers' 22m signing from Wolfsburg, has now arrived in Glasgow. However, the transfer was not completed in time for

# Woodgate's tribute to Radebe McCarthy prepared

teenage defender, Jonathon tional, who turned 30 yesterday Woodgate, is refusing to con- and celebrated the occasion cede that his side can no longer 'with the man of the match win the Premiership - and says award, faced Liverpool just his enthusiasm is thanks to over 48 hours after playing for the bubbly optimism of his cap- his country against Gabon in an

tain, Lucas Radebe. Leeds were unable to extend their winning streak to eight matches on Monday night after being held to a goalless draw by Liverpool at Elland Road, around him. "Lucas Radebe David O'Leary's side now find was outstanding," Woodgate themselves six points adrift of admitted. "He's a great player the leaders, Manchester Unit- to play alongside because he ed, with only six games left to . makes it so easy for you. play – but Woodgate is refusing to throw in the towel.

out of the infectious enthusiasm happy around the place. He's which has been generated by Radebe, Woodgate's central defensive partner.

LEEDS UNITED'S highly rated The South African internation he's always got a smile on his

 African Nations' Cup tie. And Woodgate believes that when a player shows such dedication to duty, it is easy to see why it should rub off on those

"I learn from him every single day, not only about football Such confidence is borne but in other ways as he's always excellent in training and he didn't get beaten and so are still shows what an outstanding unbeaten in the League since player he is on the pitch, but early February.

"He's a jolly person who helps pick you up when you're having a down moment - but he can also give you a rollocking as well.

So with matches at home to Alex Ferguson's side and fellow title challengers Arsenal and Chelsea still to come, the 19-year-old Woodgate is confident Leeds are not out of the championship running yet.

"I don't think it was too much to expect for us to keep the winning run going," revealed Woodgate. "That's the way it goes in football. You can't win every one. "But the main thing is we

"We are a young, confident side, so we are going to be and think like that. Now we can't wait for the big teams. We play better when they are at Elland Road. We rise to the occasion."

in with a chance.

it - I'd like to think we are still

Leeds' Norwegian international Gunnar Halle will undergo a second scan today on the left knee he injured during the first half of Monday night's An initial ultrasound scan

yesterday appears to have confirmed there is no ligament damage. However, the specialist has told the 33-year-old to also have an MRI scan to make

#### "Hopefuily, we can still chal- MICK McCARTHY, the Republic lenge for the title - we're at of Ireland manager, has named least going to have a big say in a full-strength 20-man squad for the friendly against Sweden at Lansdowne Road on 28 April but he admits he will be relying on the co-operation of English

club managers for the release of several players involved in vital promotion and relegation "It would be naïve of me not

to think that there could be problems over player releases," he said. "But I am not going to go looking for those problems. "My duty is to select the best

players available but I am de-

pendent on the good will of club managers. "Because of the postponement of our European Championship game against Macedonia scheduled for Skopje last month,

we have not played a match since 12 February. That makes the Swedish fixture all the more important in our preparation for the European Championship ties at home to Yugoslavia and Macedonia in June.'

Alex Ferguson may not be keen to release Denis Irwin and Roy Keane with Manchester United still involved in the hunt for three major trophies.

The same applies to David O'Leary at Leeds who will want to retain Ian Harte as a vital part of his bid to win a place in Europe's elite next season.

The Wolves striker Robbie Keane, currently with the Republic's Under 20 side at the World Cup finals in Nigeria, will almost certainly be required by his club as they attempt to reach the First Division play-offs.

Blackburn are likely to insist that Jason McAteer, Lee Carsley and Damien Duff stay at Ewood Park with Brian Kidd's men fighting to avoid relegation and the same argument could be applied in the cases of Mark Kinsella (Charlton) and Gary Breen (Coventry).

McCarthy, therefore, has named four players on standby: Dean Kiely of Bury, Bradford's Gareth Whalley, Wimbledon's Mark Kennedy Wimbledon's Mark Kennedy and Steve Finnan of Fulham. REPUBLIC OF BRELAND SOUAD (v Sweden, friendly Landowme Road, Bublin, 28 April): Given (Newcastic), Kelty (Shefkel Uro), awai (Manchester Urd), Carr (Attenham), Staunton (Liverpool), Harte (Leeds), Canadagham (Vimbledon), Breen (Coventry), Babb (Liverpool), Keane (Manchester Urd), McAbeer (Backburn), Rhaedla (Charlton), McLoughlin (Portsmouth), Carsley (Blachburn), Dulf (Blachburn), Cusina (Sunderland), Cascarino (Nancy), Keane (Wolves), O'Melli (Middleshough), Coanolly (Wolves), Standby; Hely (Bury), Whalley (Bradford), Keanedy (Wimbledon), Finnan (Fulharn)

# Larsson happy to remain at Celtic

By GORDAN LYLE

HENRIK LARSSON has signed a new four-year contract with Celtic. The Swedish striker, leading scorer in Scotland this season with 37 goals, has been a revelation since his £600,000 arrival at the Glasgow club two years ago from Feyenoord. Larsson has always empha-

sised he is settled at Celtic, and now it appears a revised offer to the player has paid dividends for the Scottish champions. The 27-year-old international added that this will be the last deal he will sign before returning to finish his career in Sweden. Apart from the boost it

gives to Celtic's push for the double, it is also a fillip for the Scottish game. After a season when a number of leading players have criticised the standard of football north of the border. Larsson criticised the doubters.

"When I came over here I. wasn't in my national team," het said. 'I started playing well' here and after that I was picked for Sweden, so Scottish football has worked for me. We have 60,000 fans watching us every week and the stadium is a great arena to play in. Also, if we get into Europe, it is a higher level still and I am happy

to be here." There had been doubts that Larsson could come to an agreement with the Glasgow club's owner, Fergus McCann, whose abrasive style did not suit the Swede. However, Mc-Cann has now been replaced as chief executive by Allan Mac-Donald and he wasted no time

in persuading Larsson to stay. "It took a little bit longer than I first thought," Larsson said. "But the effort of Mr MacDonald and the Celtic board made it an easy decision. Four years is a long time to commit yourself and I had to discuss it thoroughly with my family and friends. The club is aiming to do well in Europe and I have a

great belief that we will:" On the blue side of the Scottish city, Rangers' unsettled Argentinian striker Gabriel Amato has declared his wish to return to Spain at the end of the season after issuing a damning verdict on the Scottish game. The £4.2m summer capture from Real Mallorca has struggled for both form and fitness

since arriving at Ibrox. Amato outlined his view in the newspaper Marca that the Scottish Premier League compares poorly with the Spanish top flight. The criticism comes despite the player being unable to make an impression in Scotland, with only four goals. He said: "I'm clear in my mind I 💐 5, would like to return to Spain, especially if I win the title with Rangers. Scottish football bears no comparison with the Spanish game and I prefer the customs in Spain."

who managed Amato during his successful spell in Mallorca, Hector Cupar, is being lined up to manage Valencia

him to be eligible for the Scottish Cup final with Celtic in May.

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# Larsson happy to remain

HENRIS LARSSON has to a new your-year contract Celic. The Swedish and leading scorer in Scotlants season with 37 goals hat. e ation since his top-. ..... 2: the Glasgow char Pear- ago from Fevenon Larrison has alwars sisence is settled at Celle? Teppears a revised of

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THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION will be asking for an explanation from the Leeds United manager, David O'Leary, following his comments last night about an alleged bet placed on the outcome of the Premiership title

Following the goalless draw between O'Leary's side and Livday night, the was asked on television who he felt would win the Premiership.

O'Leary's response was: day night, the Leeds manager

United, so I'd better stick with them. I took a bet at the start of the season, so that's who my money is on."

But the 41-year-old Irishman yesterday claimed his comment was a light-hearted aside, saying: "If people can't take jokes..

The onus will be on the FA to prove that O Leary did have a bet. Their spokesman Steve Double said: "We want to investigate the circumstances of this. Our rules on betting are very clear and have been very well publicised in recent times. so no one should be in any doubt. Those involved in football - be it players, managers or officials - must not bet on football matches." The rule came into force

following Sir John Smith's report which was carried out in the wake trials of John Fashanu, Hans Segers and Bruce Grobbelaar, who were ter cleared of charges of

natch-fixing. In Sir John's it was clearly stated that no player or manager should bet on anything in relation to the game, with the

The Wimbledon manager, Joe Kinnear, was the last person to come close to falling foul of the rule after his side's 2-1 win over Chelsea in the quarter-finals of the Worthington Cup in December, when he said: "We are 5-2 now (to win the Cup). We were 66-1 at the start and I think a few of the lads had a few ouid on us."

Kinnear later clarified his remark by saying the comment related to friends of his and not the Wimbledon players.

The Chelsea player-coach, Gianluca Vialli, yesterday

#### FOOTBALL

By IAN PARKES

launched his £1.5m libel case against the Roma coach. Zdenek Zeman, over allegations of doping.

Vialli, who was absent from the Rome court but represented by his lawyer, took exception to comments made by Zeman in was asked on television who he a magazine last year. The Czech coach warned in an interview about the dangers of certain substances being used in Serie A and then expressed his surprise at the muscle development of Vialli and the current Juventus player Alessandro Del Piero.

In response Vialli branded Zeman "a terrorist" - a slight which prompted the coach to take reciprocal legal action against the Chelsea man.

As usual in Italy, the first audience was devoted to technical aspects of the case, which became inevitable after attempts at mediation failed. The next session before the judge Lucia Fanti is scheduled for 12 November.

Aston Villa have announced plans to expand Villa Park's capacity to more than 50,000 seats. The proposals, including a new shopping, hotel and industrial complex, would see the present 39,372 capacity rise by 11,000 and would create around 1,000 jobs.

An Aston Villa spokesman said: "The benefits of the football club's plans for the region's economy are well-known, as is the added prestige of attracting international games to the city."

Villa Park is already the venue for this season's European Cup-Winners' Cup final.

The FA Premier League Hall of Fame has joined forces with the Football League in a £250.000 deal designed to extend the spirit of the Hall across the country. Last year the Football League announced their 100 all-time great players and that roll-call of distinction will be incorporated in the Hall of Fame when it opens on 12 June at London's County Hall. The deal provides the Football League with £50,000 a season for the next five years.



# Rusedski back for the Stella

GREG RUSEDKSI managed not to wince yesterday as he and Tim Henman confirmed that they would lead the British challenge at the £470,000 Stella Artois Championships at Queen's Club, London, from 7 to 13 June.

The Stella tournament has painful memories for Rusedski. His Wimbledon prospects were wrecked at Queen's last year when he injured his left ankle in a fall during a third-round match against Laurence Tieleman, an Italian qualifier, only 10 days before the Championships at the All England Club were due to start.

Rusedski's attempt to compete at Wimbledon, where he was the No 4 seed, ended with his retirement during a firstround match against Mark Draper, of Australia. This was followed by a split with his coach, Tony Pickard, who was

By JOHN ROBERTS

angered by Rusedski's secretive behaviour with regard to treatment in the days prior to Wimbledon. Rusedski was later able to joke about the "two months" holiday" he had as a result of the injury, but it was one of the most disappointing episodes of the 25year-old's career.

Boris Becker, who withdrew from a tournament in Tokyo yesterday after losing to Andre Agassi in Monday's raindelayed Salem Open final in Hong Kong, has expressed a desire to use the Stella Artois event as a springboard for a possible last fling at Wimbledon. In 1985, Becker won at Queen's and then became Wimbledon's youngest men's singles champion, aged 17, the first of the German's three titles at the All

England Club. Currently ranked No 62 in the world, Becker is a part-time player on the ATP Tour.

Pete Sampras, the five-times Wimbledon champion, has asked the promoters of the Stella tournament to reserve a wild card for him, as he did last year. Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the Ausamong the early entries for the 56-draw Stella singles title, along with Goran Ivanisevic, a

three-times Wimbledon finalist, and previous Queen's winners Todd Martin, Mark Philippoussis and Scott Draper. Michael Chang and Thomas Enqvist are also in the list. The Spaniard Alex Corretia tumbled out of the Barcelona Open yesterday, losing 7-6, 6-3

in the second round to Morocco's Younes El Avnaoui. Last season's French Open

finalist made a string of un-

forced errors to be broken twice in the first set. He broke back each time but the Moroccan, more mobile around the court, won the set, comfortably on the tie-break.

The Spaniard continued to struggle in the second set, particularly on his backhand. He was broken in the fourth game, tralian Open champion, is listed flashing an attempted pass wide on break point.

The tall Moroccan pressed home his advantage, serving out his remaining games.

Corretja's compatriot, Albert Costa. winner in Estoril last week, underlined his potential with a smooth 6-3, 6-2 firstround win over Italy's Andrea Gaudenzi.

In Tokyo vesterday, Michael Chang struggled to squeeze out a three-set victory over the unheralded Australian Michael Hill in a windswept first-round match in the Japan Open.

# Wray pledges his loyalty to Saracens

NIGEL WRAY last night reassured his first love, Saracens, that he would remain faithful to them. His promise came after the millionaire owner of the north London club severed all ties with Nottingham Forest, the club resting at the bottom of football's Premiership.

Wray, who has donated a reported £8m to the Saracens cause in just over three years. stepped down as chairman of Forest's plc board vesterday and said: "Saracens is my first love. Rugby union is a game I played for 30 years. I remain absolutely committed to Saracens and I will see the job

"Regarding Forest, I was a member of a consortium and invested in a good football club. I am an entrepreneurial investor who likes to be involved in running things. I have holdings in an awful lot of companies. but I am not a passive investor. Soon after the start of the football season I began to believe that the football club needs to be run by people from the local community. I am not a Midlan-

der, I am a north Londoner." In fact Wray lives less than five miles from Saracens' headquarters in Southgate and played the bulk of his rugby with Old Millhillians. He took over at Saracens in 1995, in the first season of professional rugby, when he made an initial investment of £2m and under-

RUGBY UNION BY DAVID LLEWELLYN

wrote a further £500,000 share issue. Since then he has had to put his hand in his pocket on a number of other occasions as he

pursued his dream which he claimed was: "to play a European Cup semi-final against one of the top French clubs in a big stadium. The club has certainly

shifted nearer that goal. Under Wray's eye the club has moved twice, first along the road to Enfield Football Club and then to Watford, where they have been attracting five-figure crowds to the 20,000-capacity Vicarage Road stadium. However, Wray maintained:

"Although I probably own 80 to 85 per cent of Saracens I generally avoid the word 'ownership. The club belongs to the members and supporters. We have come a long way, but the job is only half done an we must not stand still."

Wray, whose place on the Forest board is to be taken by the Nottingham businessman Eric Barnes, insisted his departure had nothing to with their dreadful season. "I did not cut my ties with Forest because they have had an unsuccessful season. I had been in talks with Eric Barnes for the

# **Buoyant Britain** in line for gold

PETER WOODS urged his Great Britain side to take control of their own destiny after they virtually assured themselves of at least the bronze medal in Pool B following a 6-2 World Championship victory over Estonia in Copenhagen.

With favourites Germany suffering a shock 6-1 defeat against bost nation Denmark. Britain now lie joint second and victory over Poland, who have yet to win a game, will put them in the running for gold.

A start that saw Woods' men score three times in the opening three minutes laid the foundations for a perfect response to Sunday's narrow defeat by the Germans.

"In the first three games we played very solid defensively but had trouble scoring goals," said Woods. "So this was very positive for us and the result has out us in control of our own destiny. If we win the remainder of our games we will capture the gold medal."

#### ICE HOCKEY After Sheffield Steelers' David Longstaff scored the opener, Jeff Johnstone, of

in a British shirt. Kevin Conway added a third hefore Estonia scored during a period when Britain relaxed

Bracknell, claimed his first goal

their grip on the game. Estonia had an excellent chance to haul themselves back into the match when they were awarded a penalty shot. But Bill

Morrison, replacing the rester Stevie Lyle in goal, turned away the Estonian shot. Britain made Estonia pay for the miss when their captain,

Steve Moria, netted a powerplay fourth almost immediately and Johnstone scored his second to make it 5-1. Again Britain allowed their opponents to pull one back, but

Graham Garden put the tie out. of reach with a short-handed sixth with eight minutes remaining.

# SPORTING DIGEST

BASEBALL BASKETBALL NBA: Boston 103 Cleveland 89; Indiana 109 Taronto 99; Charlotte 92 Detroit 86; Houston 95 Minnesota 90; San Antonio 94 Phoenix 77; Golden State 104 Denver 96; Utah 98 Vancouver 80.

BOWLS

BOWLS

MEN'S ALL ENGLAND CHAMPTONSKIPS (Malcoe Mowbray) Triple,
quarter-finals: Blackpool Borough (N
Burrows) bt Worthing Povillion (P
Graymay) 22-15, Grandham (D-Auckland)
bt East Dorset (N Jones) 18-15; Chipping
Norron (L. Gillett) bt Awon Valley (G
Moon) 15-13; Stanley (J Leenan) bt
Bridgwater BCL (D Fowles) 18-14, Fosts
fleak Cumbra (T Bylor) bt Chapping Norton (L Gillett) 24-14,
GREENALLS SPRING WATERLOO
(Blackpool) Second round: T Kelly
(Leeds) bt B Ashley (Williston) 21-16; G
Cookson (Winsford) bt 5 Bishop (BirnJungham) 21-18; B Starkey (Will-field) bt D
Janderson (Sc Annes) 21-13; B Cookson
(Winsford) bt J Rothardson (Standorth) 2114; A Hough (Winsford) bt J Urmson
(Blackpool) 21-17; R Eaton (Holmes
Chapel) bt C Tattersal (Out Rawclife) 2113; G Warrington (Blackpool) bt C Massey
(Asitree) 21-19; M Topping (Adlington) bt
R Crawshaw (Wilmislow) 21-17; N Fetcher (Blackpool) bt R Burgess (Adlington)
21-15; N Musry (Sale) bt B Durcar (Barrber Bridge) 21-20; G Telford (Sale) bt R
Whitfield (York) 21-7; M Telford (Sale) bt R
Whitfield (York) 21-7; M Telford (Sale) bt R

French rider Pascal Lino has been banned by his team Big-Mat for two months and will also miss the Tour de France for taking drugs to relieve bronchitis against the advice of the team doctor. Big-Mat said Lino had counterfeited a prescription to obtain corticoids to cure persistent

FOOTBALL

Wolves are giving a trial to the Australian international Steve Horvac. currently with Croatian side, Hajduk Split. The 24-year-old central defender, with 20 caps, has impressed Colin Lee, the manager.

REPUBLIC OF RELAND UNDER-21
SOUAD (Friendly loberoatlonal v Swedom Under-21. Birr, Co Offally, 27
April): O'Comor (Bradford Park Avenue).
B Ryan (LCD), Hamidons (Sr Park Avenue).
B Ryan (LCD), Hamidons (Sr Park X Attleto), Maybury (Leeds), Wicrrell (Dundee Utd). O'Brien (Bradford). Rowlands (Brentford), RCJave (Bamsley), Morgan (St Partic's Athletic), Mabou (France), Grant (Stockport), Riffman (West Bromwich), Clare (Grantby), Fenn (Uncolin). Mailoy (Sr Patric's Athletic), Folan (Brentford), McKeever (Reading), Marphy (Cork City) Colin Lee, the manager.

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MONDAY'S LATE RESURTS: FA Carling Premiership: Leeds 0 Liverpool 0. Nationavide Conference: Kidderminster 4 Northwich 0. Severage 5 Wolung 0. Uni-Bond League Premier Divisions: Emily 1 Hyde Urd 1. Ryman League Premier Divisions: Postponed: Dagenham & Redurdge v Chesham. Unitsport United Counties League Premier Division: Wellingborough 1 Spalding 4. Arnott Insurance Northern League First Division: Scham Red Star 0 Bedlington Reviers 1. North Wiesbarn Trains League First Division: Stoke 3 Everton 2 Second Division: Newtastie 0 Sheffield Urd 1. Avon Insurance Combination First Division: Fulham 5 Milhvoll 2: Norwich 0 West Ham 3, Wienbledon 3 Watford 2. Postponed: Reading v Bournemouth

GOLF
STANDINGS FOR THE 2000 PRESIDENTS CUP (Robert trent Jones GC,
Gainesville, Virginia): International
Ream: 1 E El: ISA, 9.07 pcs: 2 V Singh
(Fij) 8.89; 3 N Price (Zim) 8.59: 4 M Ozaki (Japan) 6.66: 5 S Elhington (Aus) 5.47:
6 G Norman (Aus) 5.18. 7 S Applety (Aus)
3.59: 8 S Maruyuma (Japan) 3.53: 9 C
Franco (Ray) 3.33: 10 C Parry (Aus) 2.98;
11 N Ozaki (Japan) 2.95; 12 F Minoza
(Phill) 2.76: 13 E Romero (Arg) 2.69: 14

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated FA CUP SEMI-FINAL REPLAY rsenal v Manchester Utd (7 45) ....

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

THIRD DIVISION

Doncaster v Northwich (7.45) . ............. Forest Green v Barrow (7.45) .......

SCOTTISM LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

Oldebank of the C2 20

Clydebank v Ayr (7.30)...... FIFA WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP

SECOND ROUND

z Canterbury v Herne Bay: Cray v

UNIDET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Divisions Eastbourne Town v Hassocks.

S Leaney (Aus) 7,44: 15 G Turner (NZ) 2,41. United States: 1 D Duval 2,723,500; 2 Davis Love III 1,323,426; 3 J Maggert 1,320,410; 4 T Woods 1,315,115; 5 P Stewart 990,780; 6 S Pare 982,303; 7 J Huston 939,010; 8 J Leonard 801,647; 9 J Sluman 755,215; 10 R Mediate 662,745; 11 5 Gump 659,279; 12 T Herron 633,393; 13 B Estes 623,739; 14 M O'Meara 623,065; 15 A Magee 585,422; (US player points are based on official money cornings from the start of the 1999 season. The international ream will be determined by the Official World Rankings and will not include any player eligible for the European Ryder Cup team The top 10 quality and each coptan will have two wild-card picks) US PGA TOUR Leading money-wile-

cach captain will have two wild-card picks)
US PGA TOUR Leading money-winners (US unless stated): 1 D Duval
\$2,723,500 (£1.7m), 2 D Love
\$1,323,426: 3 J Mapgert \$1,320,410,4
T Woods \$1,315,115: 5 P Stewart
\$990,780, 6 S Potre \$982,303; 7 J Huston \$990,710: 8 V Strigh (Flip \$879,835;
9 J Leonard \$601,647: 10 E Els [\$A]
\$782,376: 11 S Elkington (Aus)
\$782,376: 11 S Elkington (Aus)
\$787,943: 12 I Sluman \$755,215, 13 J
M Olazabal (5p) \$744,247: 14 N Price
(Zlm) \$690,600, 15 G Hiertstedt (Swei
\$672,797: 16 R Mediate \$662,745: 17
\$ Gump \$659,279: 18 T Herron
\$633,939: 19 B Estes \$623,739: 20 M
O'Meara \$623,065.

ICE HOCKEY MHILL Chicago & Washington 2, NY Islanders & New Jersey 2, NY Rangers 2 Tampa Bay 1: Florida 2 Ottawa 0, Los Angeles & Nashville 3, Vancouver 2 Calgary 0, Edmonton 5 San Jose 4 (or) #WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (Copenhagen) Pool B: Estonia 2 Great Britain 6

RUGBY LEAGUE Andy Leathern, the 22-year-old St Helens prop. is joining his home town club Warrington Wolves on loan Leathern, who played in the Wem-bley win over Bradford Bulls three years ago, has been unable to force his way into the Saints' senior side this season.

RUGBY UNION Four officers of the Shropshire club Oswestry have been forbidden from having any involvement in rugby for five years after their role in playing a banned player under an alias. The North Midlands Two side have also been barred from com-

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Division: Chippenham v Odd Down. NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE First Division: Leek CSOB v Kidsgrove, Ramsbottom v Vauxhalf GM, St Helens v Atherton LR. NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Presider Division: Hallam y Thackley.

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN
LEAGUE CUP Seral-Raal: Jamow Root-

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE First Divi-sion: Downton v Portsmouth RN; Ham-ble ASSC v Christchurch; Money Field v Benterton Heath Harl.

TODAY'S NUMBER \$4,000

(£2,500) which basketball player Karl Malone of Utah Jazz was fined for throwing a punch during the game against Houston on Sunday night.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

The sum in dollars

PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: Everton v Blackburn (7.0). Nottingham Forest v Sunderland (7.0). Preston v Derby (7.15) Obtston One Barriety v Ochtam (7.0). Burnley v Wolvernampton (7.15) Game'v v Middlesbrough (7.0); Port Vale v Botton (7.0). Second Division: Budford v Shrewsbury (2.0). Newcastle v Lincoln (7.0). Stockport v Huddersheid (7.0). Westham v Blackpool (7.0); York v Nottle County (7.0). Third Division: Chesterfield v Haltur (2.0). Hartippool (2.0). Hartis (2.0). Haltur Scomper (2.0). Bothdale v Chester (2.0). Walsall v Bury (2.0).

san v Bury (2.0)
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First
Division: Brighton v Barnet (7.0), Cam-bridge v Brentford (7.0) Gillingham v Chelses Ipswich v Iottenhum (7.0) Gillingham v V Watford, Swindon v Svarnampron (7.1%) Reading v Bournemouth

RUGBY LEAGUE NORTHERN FORD PREMIERSHIP: Pochdale v Barrow (7-10) RUGBY UNION

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: PAF a May-WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier Di-WEISH HAI DONAL LEAGUE PREME DE VISION: Pontypudd ve Peba Vale († 15)

AIB LEAGUE Second Division: Canadom v UCC († 0)

HART GELMORE NORTH MIDLANDS

CHAMPIONSHIP: Greater Birmanenan v Words & Herefordship († 1) pat v angerhan

BASKETBALL

BUDMEISER CHAMPIONSHIP Play-off's second log: Sheffeld States -Grater London Leopards (1965) on Prents Forgel, Thames Valley Treas C 19 day Storm (8.0). OTHER SPORTS **BOWLS:** English halong a hampion-inp he halfs (at Melron Mawordy) ICE HOCKEY World Champending Mad P. Great Britain v Poland (at Otimber 1984)

Wre ham centre, who had been canned for a year by the Welsh Dis-tner RU for assaulting a referee. Os-westry initially claimed that Roberts had been mistaken for their New Zealand centre Terry Smith but they decided not to contest the matter at a disciplinary meeting on Mon-

CRAVEN SHIELD: Wolverhampton 48 king's Lynn 42 INTERNATIONAL MATCH (Exeter): England Under-21 35 Sweden Under-23 55

SQUASH ALANPAINO FINNISH OPEN (Hetsia-ki) Final: O Elborolossy (Eg) of D Palmer (Aus) 12-15 15-11 15-11 15-7 WOMEN'S CITROEN CLASSIC (Parsdorf, Gerj Final: M Martin (Aus) bt C Jack man (Eng) 7-9 9-3 9-5 9-5

TENNIS

TEN NIS

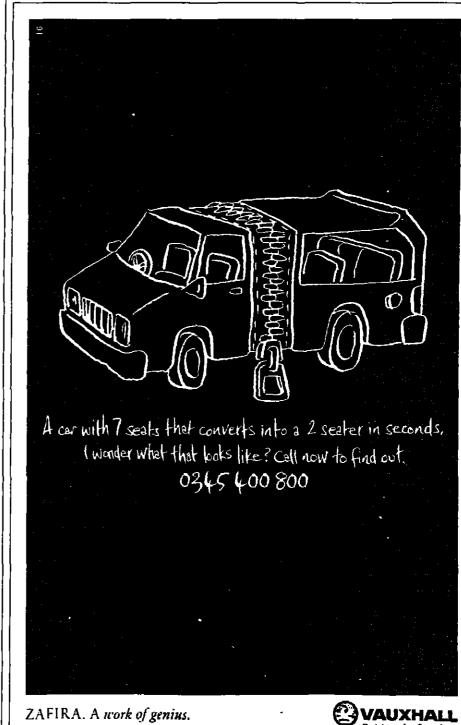
ATP BARCELONA OPEN Singles, first
round: F Meligeni (Bra) bit M Rosset (Swat)
6-3 6-2. J A Marin (CR) bit F Cesta (Bra)
6-3 6-2. J A Marin (CR) bit T Cesta (Bra)
6-3 6-3. J C Ferrero (Sp) bit T Carbonell
(Sp) 6-3 4-6 6-4. A Martin (Sp) bit J Nouali (CZ Rep) 6-0 6-1. A Costa (Sp) bit A
Gaudents (II) 6-3 6-2. A Portus (Sp) bit A
Martinette (III) 6-3 6-2. A Portus (Sp) bit A
Martinette (III) 6-3 6-3. A Costa (Sp) bit A Gaudenti (II) -3 -5 -2 - A Portus (Sp) of A Methodos (III) f 6-6 -1, M Zabulera (Arg) of S Grospean (Fr) 6-7 7-6 6-1. B Ultimach (C2 Rep) for F Roig (Sp) 7-6 6-1. M Puerta (Arg) for A Voinea (Rom) 6-1 2-5 6-4. F Mantilla (Sp) for G Blanco (Sp) 6-2 6-0 Second round: Y El Aynaous (Mor) for A Correta (Sp) 7-6 6-3.

Second round: Y El Ayracus (Mor) br A Correta (Sp) 7-6-3.

IAPAN OPEN (Tokyo) Men's singles. first rd: H Kaneko (Japan) bt M Knowle; (Ban) 6-8-4. M Chang (US) br M Hill IARS) 7-6-6-7-6. Juan Lottum (Netn) br N Estade (Fr) 6-2-6-8. P Goldstein (US) bt H Dreekmann (Ger) 7-5-6-4. B Rarbacher (Cert br S Campbell (US) 6-2-7-5. D Nestor (Can) bt C Vinck (Ger) 4-6-6-3-6-3. Burgsmuller (Ger) br P Wessels (Neth) 6-3-5-6-6-2. B Stepanek (Cz Rep) bt J Tarango (US) 7-5-6-4. M Sell (US) br M Woodforde (Arc) 7-6-2-6-6-2. S Schalken (Neth) 6-3-6-2-8. A Canber (US) 7-6-6-2-5-5. K Carlsen (Den) br P Schurtler (Ger) 6-2-6-4. M Till-strom (Swe) br I Kooshak (Slowk) 7-6-6-4. I kingpschild (Ger) br B Steven (NZ) 6-2-5-5. W Arthurs (Avs) bt M Rodriguez (Arg) 6-3-5-2. Women's singles, first round: R-A Guse (Mas) bt M Rodriguez (Arg) 6-3-5-2. Women's singles, first round: R-A Guse (Mas) bt M Shaughnessy (US) 6-3-7-5. WTA TOUR RANKINGS: 1 M Hings.

wta Tour Rankings: 1 M Hings

5 763000 3 1 Dimensort (US) WTA TOUR RANKINGS: 1 M Hings: [Swit] 5763pts 2 1, Davenport (US) 5763pts 2 1, Davenport (US) 5198 3 M Seles (US) 4,033, 4,1 Novethal (L2 Rep) 3 R85, 5 S Graf (Ger) 3,079, 6 V Williams (US) 2,590, 7 A Sanchez Victoria (Sb) 2,847, 8 M Perce (Fr) 2,092, 9 S Williams (US) 2,080, 10 P Schnyder (Svar) 4772, 11 N Lauzatt (Fr) 2,050, 12 S Lesnat (Fr) 1,994, 13 A Roumbook (Rust 1,747, 14 A Maureamo (Fr) 1,859, 15 D Van Provi (Bel) 1,316, 16 A Coetter (Sa) 1,516, 17 N Zwereva (Bela) 1,670, 18 C Matthews (Sp) 1,625, 19 B Schert (Aut) 1,593, 20 1 Spilled (Rom) 1,632, 21 1 C data (Devugna (Fr) 1,441, 22 E Lishout-Leva (Roy) 1,463, 23 ( Rustin (US) 1,379, 24 H Nagawa (Streath) 1,275, 25 S Fanna (h) 1,221 Selected: 63 S Smith (GB) 4,24



Raising the Standard

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GRAHAM BRADLEY, one of the most senior and successful riders in the National Hunt weighing room, was charged yesterday with "conspiracy to cheat", at the end of a two-year police investigation into alleged doping and race-fixing. He will appear before Bow Street Magistrates Court

Bradley, 38, was charged under Section 1 (i) of the Crim-Oliver Cromwell Handicap

By GREG WOOD

form book, Man Mood led to the 11th fence, but was pulled up approaching the 12th. Drumstick, a 5-4 chance, finished alone.

A police statement said that the jockey had been charged that "on or before 5 November 1996 within the jurisdiction of inal Law Act, 1977, in connec- the Central Criminal Court, he tion with a race at Warwick on did conspire with others to 5 November 1996. Bradley rode win for himself or others from Man Mood, who started a hot bookmakers sums of money favourite at 7-4 on to beat his through wagering on the event only rival, Drumstick, in the of a horse race, by fraud or other unlawful devices in that Chase, but was pulled up by he agreed that Man Mood, Bradley midway through the ridden by him, would not win race. According to the official the said race."

South Africa on the day of the read a statement. race, was arrested along with

trainer who prepared Man later, Monty Raphael, his legal Mood but was holidaying in representative, emerged to him such tremendous support."

"Mr Brooks has been told he was told yesterday that he further action so far as he is

racing world who have given

Yesterday's charge against Bradley is thought to be un-Bradley in early January, but that the police intend to take no precedented, the first ever brought against a current.

will face no further action. Brooks, who has retired as a trainer last year but still has a close involvement with

horseracing via several media

roles, arrived at Charing Cross

concerned." he said. "You will licensed jockey by the police in appreciate this has been a trying business for him and his family, he is therefore pleased that the matter has ended and that he can return to his life and police station at 1.00pm to future career. He is particularly

connection with alleged race-

Bradley las ridden winners at all the top tracks, including Cheltenham and Aintree, Last Saturday he rode Suny Bay

Charlie Brooks, the former answer bail, and 25 minutes appreciative of all those in the into 13th place in the Grand stewards, at which they will National at Aintree. In 1998, the same partnership finished second in the National to Earth Summit. At Aintree in 1993, he rode Morley Street, a notably quirky character, to win the Martell Aintree Hurdle – a performance regarded as the finest piece of horsmanship

> Bradley rode Rhyme 'N' Reason to victory in the Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse. Bradley will also now be required to attend a meeting with the stewards of the Jockey Club in the near future. In a statement issued yesterday, the Club said that "in view of the serious nature of the

charge, he will be asked to

seen for many years. In 1985,

consider what, if any, action to be taken under the Rules of Racing. Graham Bradley will have the opportunity to be legally represented at the

The Jockey Club added that they anticipate that meeting taking place by the end of this

Yesterday's charge marks the low point of a riding career which has often swung wildly between success and controversy. In the course of almost two decades in the saddle, Bradley has won the Cheltenham Gold Cup on Bregawn as long ago as 1983, and the Champion Hurdle just three years ago, on Collier Bay. In that year's race, Bradley had attend a meeting with the



THE INDEPENDENT Wednesday 14 April 1999

Bradley: Charged

been expected to partner Alderbrook, the defending champion, but lost the ride after oversleeping.

Racing, pages 22 and 23

# A traditional start to new season - snow

THE FIRST delivery of the new County Championship season was a full toss that left its in- BY MARK BURTON tended target mopping himself down. Not blood, water. Snowballs were all Durham could unleash with a vengeance vesterday after the heavilyladen storm that scudded across the sky clouds laid down their burden down at the River-

Durham's headquarters at Chester-le-Street looked perfect for the county's next Christmas card after it was buried under a carpet of snow by a steady fall less for its proper purpose. No ruptions was not bad. match against Worcestershire.

The Championship is making an early start this season to make room for the World Cup and the visit of the New Zealand tourists, but April is not the most reliable month. Showers are one thing, but snow, hailstorms and thunder is just not cricket.

"We could have played here at any time during the last three weeks," Durham's new groundsman, David Measor, said. "Even after the wet winter the ground was dry and we were ready to start."

## CRICKET

Rain put paid to play between Lancashire and Sussex at Old Trafford, but the county champions, Leicestershire, were able to get underway against Essex at Chelmsford in spite of the squally showers and bursts of hail and sleet. Just like the weather, this was a contest between the best and the worst. the hosts having finished bottom of the table last summer. All things considered, their return through the morning but use- of 91 for 2 through the inter-

> Not as good, though, as Surrey's. Every kind of weather imaginable, with the exception of fog, took turns to sweep across The Oval where Gloucestershire put the home side in, no doubt assuming that the inevitable interruptions would disrupt the batsmen's rhythm. But every time the sun returned, the left-handers Mark Butcher and Ian Ward looked as if they were batting on a shirt-front at the height of summer, piling up an unbroken 124 opening partnership.



Reports, scoreboard, page 21 Snowballs not bails are David Boon's concern at Durham's Chester-le-Street headquarters on the first day of their opening County Championship match vesterday

# THE WEDNESDAY CROSSWORD No.3896 Wednesday 14 April by Portia

ACROSS Key proposal's out of order causing uproar (9) Protection for soldier, in the main, when

retreating (5)

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Often seeming somewhat strained (5) 10 Hesitate to get out, though sick at heart (9) 11 The dogs ran off, being wilful (10)

12 Weak condition besets a homeless person (4) 14 South African involved in rough campaign (7) 15 Storm follows public scandal (7)

17 Height of excellence? 19 Fenatical struggle at the end? (3-4)

Colour Print, St Albans Road, Wattorn

20 In this way is repeatedly

indifferent (2-2) 22 Fruit tree woman left to

wither (5-5)

25 Intensity of a child-like appeal (9) 26 He's the first heading off 8 deeper (5) 27 By the sound of it, for-

mer period's run out (5)

keep going (9) DOWN Corner field? (5) Insignificant work of

28 Training run's hard but

Obscure words have to be translated - nothing in that (10) Opposite method of writing? (4)

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prosecute? It's

impossible (2,3,2) Soothe fears after losing a partner (4) Said to gather in African republic (5)

> lows get in protection (9) Simplify current policy 14 Capital country? (4.5) Immediately visible, a label on a weapon (2,1,6) 18 Model's elated by

City where English fel-

progress (5,2) 19 She fits one for the part Get out and find a way to meet upper-class

representative (5)

Cheek's a sensitive spot

24 Charge a pound for

# Owen faces scan for tendon damage

MICHAEL OWEN is still waiting to discover whether his season is over after suffering a hamstring injury at Leeds on Mon-

day night. The Liverpool striker has undergone a hospital scan to establish if there is tendon damage amid fears he could be ruled out for the rest of the season, missing England's friendly against Hungary in Budapest on 28 April.

Owen pulled up as he raced on to Steve McManaman's through-ball at Elland Road and fell to the floor clutching the back of his right leg.

The Liverpool manager, Gerard Houllier, is concerned that it is a case of history repeating itself, as Owen suffered the same injury at Derby a month ago.

"We took him off as a premaybe doesn't look as bad as we be damage on the tendon."

Owen's injury is a further blow to Liverpool's Uefa Cup hopes after Robbie Fowler was given a six-game ban by the Football Association for an incident involving the Chelsea defender Graeme Le Saux and his goal celebration in the Merseyside derby, when he

pretended to snort cocaine. "To lose Michael and Robbie at the same time does give us a real problem," admitted Houllier, who will look to the German international Karlheinz Riedle to step in to the breach for the season's run-in

Riedle has made only 13 starts this season but Houllier

المكذا من الأجل

BY PAUL DOWLING

will need his experience towards the end of the season as Liverpool continue to chase a European place.

Fowler has still not appealed against his six-game suspension and £32,000 fine. Indeed, the FA has not yet received any notification from Fowler or his representatives, but the Liverpool striker still has until 23 April lodge an appeal.

Despite Fowler's disciplinary brushes with the FA Kevin Keegan, the England coach, will not be under pressure to drop him from the England squad for the friendly with Hungary.

Because of fitness doubts hanging over Owen and Chris Sutton, who has effectively been caution," said Houllier. "It ruled out for the rest of the season with a groin problem, first thought, although it could Fowler has a chance of not only making the squad but possibly even the game itself.

The double injury blow has drastically reduced Keegan's striking options for the friendly in Hungary. He may well favour giving a second chance to Alan Shearer and Andy Cole, who played against Poland last month, to develop their strike partnership ahead of the Euro 2000 qualifiers against Sweden and Bulgaria in June. But Cole's recent form has been suffering, and Keegan may prefer to leave some first-choice players from Manchester United, Arsenal or Chelsea out of his squad, given their extensive Although some FA council-lors may feel that Fowler's recent indiscipline should count against him, there will be no official request made to Keegan to leave the striker out, even if his ban may leave him short of match practice for the Euro qualifiers in June.

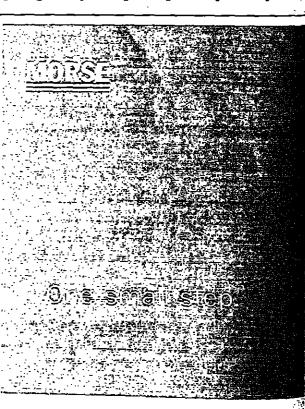
In the past, players undergoing lengthy domestic suswould automatically been ruled out of international games.

However, FA spokesman Steve Double confirmed: "Domestic suspensions mean just that. Players remain available for any possible international call-ups.

Fowler, who has won eight international caps, is therefore almost certain to be included in the squad that will be named by Keegan next Thursday - with yesterday's confirmation of the date being another indication that the match is still likely to go ahead.

However, with Owen and Sutton missing, Keegan will be looking for another two strikers to increase his options up front. Tottenham's Chris Armstrong was the player called up as a late replacement for the Poland game, with his clubmate Les Ferdinand suffering from a slight injury problem.

Emile Heskey, though, should also feature if judged fit after his recent back problems, while Paul Merson returned to first-team action for Aston Villa with a sparkling substitute's display against Southampton last



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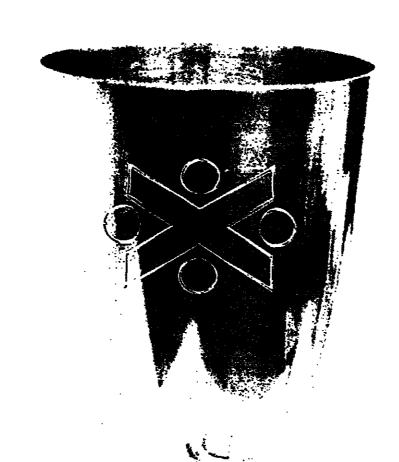
**¥THE INDEPENDENT** 

Wednesday 14 April 1999

# BUSINESS REVIEW

# POISONED CHALICE

THE TV EVANGELIST, THE BANK OF SCOTLAND AND AN UNHOLY ROW





**Inside:** How BT made the right connections, page 5 The smart money on the banker's banker, page 6 **Plus:** Diane Coyle, Derek Pain and The Trader

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conquest of inflation will dominate strategic thinking in the early years of the next millennium.

Probably the most important relative price movements become very apparent - and those who put up prices are quickly accused of profiteering. And so, as macroeconomic counter-inflation policy moves out of the political limelight, we see micro-economic policy moving to centre stage.

In the 1970s and 1980s the standard medicine for too much inflation was to print less money. Now, the fashionable cure is increased competition.

It is a cure that goes well with the New Labour policy agenda. New Labour wants to be businessfriendly. Business is all about making a profit. Yet profit was anathema to Old Labour. So a new synthesis is emerging, which says that a normal return on capital is respectable. indeed necessary, but that excessive profits are obscene.

High profits are a sign of too high prices, and the cure for both is more

The big food retailers have given us efficient modern shopping maconsequence of low inflation is that chines that are always crowded with people who profess to dislike them. The press ran several "rip-off Britain" stories last summer when the strong pound pushed UK shop prices above their Continental counterparts.

But who is to blame for high prices? Before macro-economic policy was taken out of the political arena, the press might have focused on the exchange rate. Instead, it ran a profit story. So it was not long before the Government launched an Office of Fair Trading (OFT) enquiry, which concluded that the food retailers warranted investigation by the Competition Commission.

When the OFT investigates an industry it is because a small number of suppliers have a stranglehold on the market. The aim is to define a market, show that a few players have a very large share, and nail them for

abusing a dominant position. But it is difficult to make this kind

THE BUSINESS implications of the competition. An example of this has of charge stick in the case of food been the furore over the super- retailing: supermarkets were invented to lure the once-a-week ear-bound shopper, who is willing to drive some distance to save a lew pounds on the weekly shop. The market is clearly pretty competitive.

But some stores do make a lot of money. So the OFT looked directly at profits, aiming to show that the supermarkets were making an excessive return on capital.

What does excessive mean? The issue is complex - indeed the regulation of the privatised utilities has spawned a whole new literature on the subject.

Successful innovation in any sphere usually generates big profits. Innovators such as Microsoft and the Internet entrepreneurs are modern variations on an old theme: early settlers take a big risk, but can reap the biggest rewards. But for every success story there

returns of the successful are not the In some spheres, the importance of innovation and the im-

are many failures. The

Profits that appear at first glance excessive may nevertheless be socially acceptable.

BILL

ROBINSON

portance of rewarding the successful, are explicitly recognised. For instance, drug companies can earn buge returns on their capital. if they find a way to produce a drug for a few pence and then sell it for several pounds. Patent laws imitators.

These laws provide a proper reward for the huge sums spent by innovators on research and development. If they were repealed the nation's drugs bill would plummet - but there would be no new drugs. So we allow the pharmaceutical industry to be the most profitable industry in the world.

Pharmaceutical companies typically plough a large proportion of their profits back into research. The rates of return earned by the pharmaceutical industry - which are way in excess of the normal return on equity capital - provide the incentive (and in some cases the funds) for further innovation.

The pharmaceutical example illustrates the point that profits that appear at first glance excessive may nevertheless be socially ac-

both a reward for running risk and an incentive to innovation. They may also supply the funding for further innovation.

We may be able to live with "excessive" profits for drugs compawill protect the company from nies, but what about property speculators? Although it may be harder to swallow, the same arguments apply.

A successful development - the shopping mail at Brent Cross or the huge Broadgate complex in the City, for example - can command very high rents, which suggests that someone is earning a very high return on capital. But nobody (yet) is suggesting that the developers be investigated by the OFT, and rightly so.

The financiers took a very large risk, and the results of their enterprise are shops and offices for which people willingly pay high rents. If those rewards for success were disallowed, there would be no further innovation.

Food retailers need similar incentives: Although they have been pretty innovative over the past decade or two, and transformed the

ceptable. Such profits may provide food shopping experience, the grocery retail revolution is far from over Food distribution has caught up with the invention of the motor car. It has not yet come to terms with the Internet, which will one day transform shopping from home The retailers still need the

incentive to innovate. Does this mean that we should stop worrying about the profitability of supermarkets? Not quite, because there is one important feature of the food retailing industry that certainly is stifling compe-

tition: planning restrictions. Successive governments have decreed that the success of out-oftown retailing is threatening town centres, and have imposed all kinds of restrictions on developments.

So if there is a problem about the rofitability of these stores, it is largely of the Government's making. All of which makes it rather difficult to predict where an investigation of the profitability of supermarkets will lead.

Bill Robinson is a director of the consultancy London Economics

# **DATELINE: MILAN**

# Fall of Italy's high priest of banking

ON THE surface nothing has changed. Each weekday mornold high priest of Italian fiment shortly after eight. His hunched figure in navy wool coat with matching hat and cashmere scarf moves purfront of La Scala opera house to his office at No 10 via Filodrammatici, the headquarters of Italy's only real merchant bank, Mediobanca.

who has pulled the strings of Italian finance for half a century, is no longer the puppet master, his marionettes have begun to move by themselves and he risks finding himself sidelined.

Sunday is normally a sacred day of rest for Milan's driven financial community. But by the evening of 21 March, two friendly takeover bids by Italian banks totalling \$26bn had changed Italian credit for ever.

Unicredito Italiano, the country's biggest bank in market capitalisation, launched a \$16.4 play for its rival Banca 'Eurobanca". to become Italy's largest financial institution

Hours Liter that record was broken when Turin-based San Paolo-IMI, Italy's biggest bank in terms of assets, had offered \$9.7bn dollars for Banca di Roma. Both share-swap deals depend on shareholder acceptance and approval by the stock two such massive deals been struck without the blessing of Enrico Cuccia. Mediobanca had been gambling on a merger between Banca Commer-Roma. As the deals were fiBY FRANCES KENNEDY

ing Enrico Cuccia, the 91-year- nalised, Mediobanca executives were barricaded in their nance, leaves his Milan apart- 16th-century palazzo headquarters with the press outside. Cuccia had forgone his usual Sunday afternoon tea at the Caffe Ambroeus in a desperate posefully across the piazza in attempt to orchestrate a counter-attack.

The deals mean a transfer of power that would seriously undermine the independence of the merchant bank and leave it But the dramatic events of exposed to predators. Sixteen Mediobanca would be in the hands of Unicredit-Comit and 8 per cent with San Paolo-Banca di Roma.

The irony was that Enrico Cuccia, who countless times bailed out the big names of Italian industry, from Agnelli to Ferruzzi to Pirelli, now has to try to save himself.

The enigmatic Sicilian banker is arguably the most influential economic figure in postwar Italy. Mediobanca was born on10 April 1946, on the initiative of the liberal banker Raffaelle Mattioli, Cuccia, al-Commerciale Italiana. to create ready identified as a financial whizz, was out in charge.

Its aim was to serve the needs of industry after the Second World War but Cuccia soon widened that brief, turning it into Italy's first merchant bank during exceptionally rapid growth in time for Italy's "economic miracle" of the Sixties.

Cuccia forged alliances with the big family dynasties of Italian capitalism. The Agnellis of Fiat, the Pirelli tyremakers, the Ferruzzi agrochemicals empire, the DeBenedetti family at Olivetti were all part of what became known as the solotto buono - the exclusive

drawing room of Italian industry. Cuccia protected them from foreign predators and from the state. He also set up a complex web of cross-shareholdings that linked the various planets in the Mediobanca galaxy.

These inter-related companies would support one another in times of difficulty and avoid having to resort to share issues or bank loans.

Giuseppe Turani, editor of Uomini e Business magazine, says: "Cuccia ensured the various figures on the economic didn't scrap among themselves. He decreed when someone should make an exit, certainly not competitors or the free market.

"Secondly, when a group was in deep crisis, everything came to a halt and Cuccia moved in. He had a good look at the books, called in the banks (often ordering them to provide credit or underwrite highly risky recapitalisations) and at times he sorted out new managers."

Crucial to Cuccia's overall strategy were the three then state-controlled banks the Banca Commerciale Italiano, Credito Italiano and Banca Nazionale del Lavoro. They held stakes in Mediobanca and could be called on to provide cash when required. The relationship was perverse; instead of shareholder banks controlling Mediobanca, Cuccia is-

sued the orders. The success of Mediobanca was due to Cuccia's extraordinary financial acumen but also his personality. He has never given an interview and attends public functions reluctantly. Photos of Cuccia, with his heavily lidded eyes, high forehead, thick lips and hunched shoul-

ders are rare. There is an underground tunnel that links Mediobanca to the next door palazzo, allowing staff and clients to come and go without being noticed.

Among the few journalists to have met Cuccia is Piero Ottone, a former editor of Corriere della Sera.

He said: "[He is] a man of exemplary integrity and rigorous principles in his personal life, who received a modest salary and conducted a modest lifestyle, although he backed some dubious characters. When told he'd supported someone that he himself defined a thief, he would point to the chairs on which his visitors sit, saying, 'If you only knew how many rotters have sat

Ottone says much of the enigma of Cuccia can be explained by his deeply ingrained Sicilian culture. "That demands absolute loyalty in exchange for loyalty. To the men he supported he would forgive almost

anything, but not betrayal." Critics say Cuccia hamnered competition, orevented Italian companies from "growing up", stopped the banking sector from developing and sold minor shareholders short. Romano Prodi, the recently nominated President of the European Commission, once described the power of Mediobanca as "a threat to economic democracy in Italy".

For some commentators the advent of European Monetary Union sounded the death knell of the Cuccia-Mediobanca-Italian capitalism system. Cuccia's flaw. they argue, was pride, thinking he could resist change rather than adapt to it.

Enrico Cuccia, puppet-master of post-war Italian banking, has been outmanoeuvred in two recent deals Grazia Neri

powerful family, the Agnellis, and with Lazard Frères. For years Cuccia had a close rapport with the mythical Andre Mayer, Lazard's founder. The two banks share control of Assicurazioni Generali, one of Europe's biggest insurance firms, but the relationship has turned frosty. When one of Mediobanca's most promising middle managers Gerardo Braggiotti, was sacked in December 1997, he became senior partner in Lazard. Proof that loyalties no longer lie with Cuc-

rioration of two specially close

relationships; with Italy's most

cia showed when Fiat helped to organise the San Paolo-Banca di Roma deal - it holds shares in both - and Lazard brokered the Unicredito deal. Many point the finger at

Mediobanca's managing di-They also point to the dete- rector, 61-year-old Vincenzo

Maranghi, Cuccia's dauphin. They say he lacks vision, makes strategic errors and is responsible for a run of failures that marked the decline in Mediobanca's power. Apart from snubbing Umberto Agnelli, brother of patriarch Giovanni. and irritating Deutsche Bank, Maranghi has also made ene-

mies in much of the banking establishment. "Cuccia is arrogant but he is a genius," said Fabio Tamburrini, author of A Sicilian in Milan. a biography of Cuccia. "Maranghi has always displayed incredible arrogance while making mistake after mistake."

More signs that Mediobanca was waning came with the failure of the 1996 Supergemina project, a fusion that would have saved the Ferruzzi group. another family holding. The revelation of massive losses in Gemina and the intervention of a magistrature thwarted that. Last year, Piero Marzotto oo-

posed the marriage, matched by Cuccia, of his textile group with another conglomerate, HDP. And a two-year campaign to wed Banca Commerciale and Banca di Roma failed acrimoniously the week before the Unicredito and San Paolo deals. If both mergers proceed, there are question marks over the future of Cuccia and the bank he

Should he step aside, there are по obvious successors. Conflict with Maranghi has seen an exodus of top management since 1996.

founded.

Whoever is in charge, Mediobanca will change. It may try to carve a strictly merchant banking role, divesting itself of its stakes in Italian companies. If it is the subject of a takeover bid, it could divest itself of only minor holdings, remaining essentially as it is, but fused with the raider.

"It's not a large or structured" organisation." says Fabio Tamburrini. "There are only 300 em-" ployees. It's a boutique so it will !! be difficult for them to compete solely in that sector."

There are jewels in the Mediobanca portfolio. It holds strategic share packets in appetising companies such as Generali and SAI (insurance) Pirelli (tyres) Compart(chemicals) HDP (media and textiles) Falck and Fondiaria (steel). The presence of Cuccia has always been a protection for these companies against marauders. In future their only defence will be staying com petitive and seeking strategic alliances themselves.

# A WEEKLY DIGEST OF THE WORLD'S FINANCIAL PRESS



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**BUSINESS WEEK** Can US chief executives justify pay packages that average \$10m?

OUTRAGEOUS? WELL, yes and no. Many CEOs appear to be earning their keep. Thanks to options, the link between pay and performance value had been created by many of these top execs. And shareholders are not complaining either.

But times are exceptionally good too easy to confuse genius with a bull market. What to do? To ensure that only the best performers reap their just rewards, we support Alan Greenspan in advocating indexed options. Give CEOs options that have no value unless the stock actually does better than a market or. a peer group index. High pay is OK only if supported by performance.

- Editorial

# L'INANCIAL NEWS

FINANCIAL NEWS Placing new restraints on derivatives would be unnecessary and unwise

THE WORLD Bank's snipe at the \$50 trillion derivatives industry is somewhat uncharacteristic. Derivatives instruments help tease apart the has never been tighter. Enormous | strands of risk entwining the global economy. They offer investors untold opportunities to assess the merits of government policy. In doing so they attract capital to well-managed for executives to strut their stuff. It's | economies and facilitate flows out of those that are unsound. This is evident not just in emerging markets

> but in G10 countries such as Italy. To levy an ill-conceived regulatory framework on emerging market derivatives now would be to nunish those countries making painful, but rewarding strides towards recovery, and those which have turned their back on the free-market principle.



THE WASHINGTON POST

On how Brazil has come back

from the brink of recession

IN JANUARY, Brazil conducted a

crisis devaluation of the currency. It was a cruel blow to a lower class already absorbing severe punishment, and also to a middle class scarcely more securely perched on the lower rungs of a society notorious for its income disparities. Yet it did not produce the widely-feared Brazilian meltdown. Brazilians still expect negative growth this year.

Nonetheless, developments in Brazil can be regarded as an achievement. They do more than win President Fernando Henrique Cardoso the further respect of the international financial set. They confront the twice-elected former professor with the opportunity to tackle more demanding reform. Editorial



**FINANCIAL TIMES** On Europe after the euro's first one hundred days

WITH INFLATION subdued, the central question becomes an assessment of the scale of the trouble facing the real economy. It is serious. Eurozone growth has collapsed. Domestic demand is sickly and business confidence and investment are terribly weak. Monetary easing alone will not cure Europe's economic ills. For too long, politicians have avoided the difficult liberalisation needed to unleash enterprise

and help unemployment fall. Since the launch of the euro, too many politicians have been secondguessing the ECB. After the ECB's first rate cut, it is time for governments to play their part. If monetary union brings economic reform, that really will be a reason to drink a toast. – Editorial



THE ECONOMIST Why America is fighting a just trade war over bananas

BUT SURELY, a liberal might plead, the EU should protect poor Caribbean banana growers against heartless American multinationals? Is not bending world trade rules a small price to pay for helping the poor? No, it is a large price to pay, and for not very much help. Trade restrictions are not a good way to help poor countries: trade rules are too important to global prosperity. Moreover, the banana regime is a rich man's racket.

It costs European consumers about \$2bn (£1.24bn) a year. Of that, around \$1bn (£0.62bn) goes to the distributors. Banana growers in the poor countries get only \$150m (£93m) a year. If the EU wants to help, it should throw open its banana market and increase direct aid to the Caribbean.

- Editorial



FORTUNE On what China stands to gain from the World Trade Organisation

WHAT WORRIES China is the short term: the impact on state industries. With a stability-obsessed leadership alarmed by rising unemployment, the list of potential WTO casualties is long. China may call itself a "developing" country, but a more accurate label is "semi-reformed". And the further Peking inches towards market reform, the

tougher become the the choices. From this perspective. China's drawn out WTO entry bid simply highlights a more fundamental challenge for the Chinese leadership: how to get the country from an opaque, state-dominated economy to rules-based free-market system without eroding the pillars of one-

party power. - Editorial Richard Tomlinson



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On the impact of overstated

earnings on Wall Street

MIND-BLOWING valuations and speculative frenzy by no means exhaust the list of things that trouble us about the level of the market, Purported earnings are a sore subject as well. We've long had a gripe about taking huge anticipatory charges in a bad year, so as to puff up earnings the next. Equally irksome is hyping earnings by using options instead of

cash to pay employees. Andrew Smithers has bravely sought to determine the impact of the use of options on corporate profits. If corporations had accounted fully for the costs of options, published profits would have been reduced by st Whopping 56 per cent in 1997 and 50 per cent in 1998. It puts the market in a slightly different light, doesn't it? – Editorial

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THE INDEPENDENT

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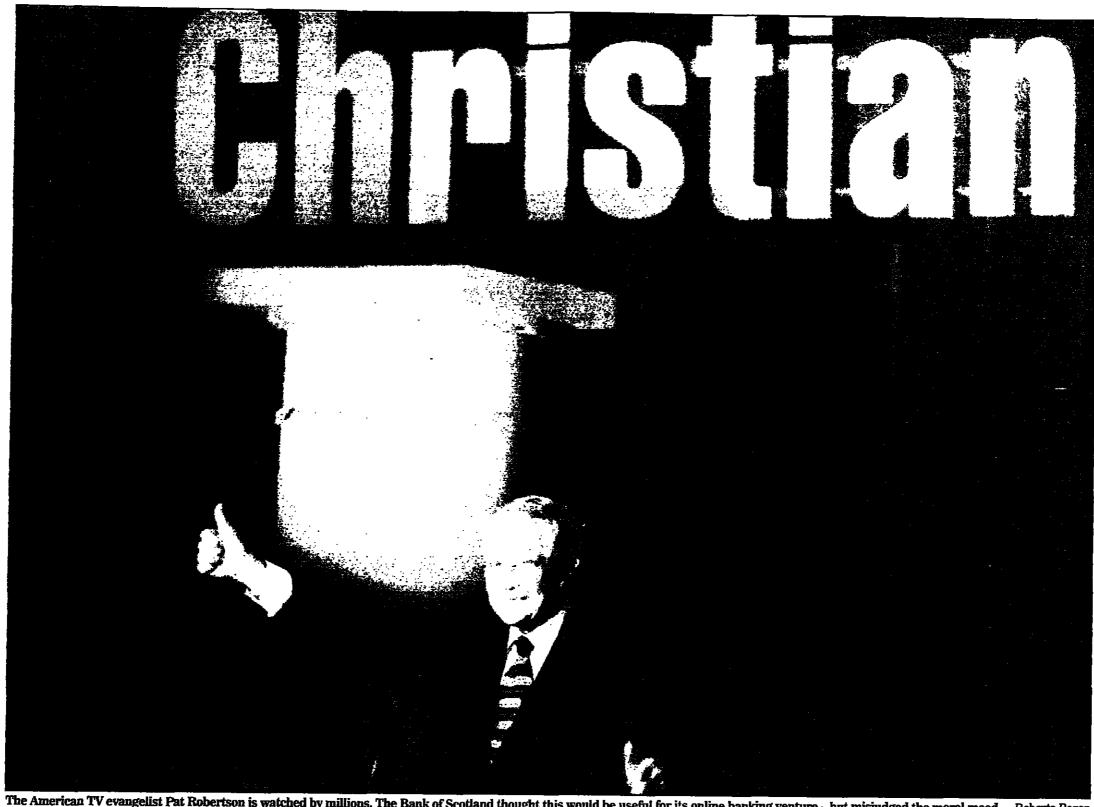
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The American TV evangelist Pat Robertson is watched by millions. The Bank of Scotland thought this would be useful for its online banking venture - but misjudged the moral mood Roberto Borea

# One hell of a deal

FOR PAT ROBERTSON, Bank of Scotland seemed like the perfect partner. One of Britain's most venerable and sober financial institutions, it is the oldest existing UK clearing bank, having been first established in 1695, and has a reputation for the kind of Scottish Calvinist solidity which places reputation before risk and regards gambling with its £60bn of assets as a moral sin rather than a corporate opportunity.

Its chairman goes by the title of Governor, a position which, in theory if not in practice, is equal to that of the Governor of the Bank of England, and it prints its own bank notes. For Mr Robertson's particular brand of religious conservatism, it appeared the ideal partner.

There was also a sentimental reason for ir Robertson to forge links. The year that Trank of Scotland was founded, 1695, was also the date when Mr Robertson's ancestor, the Rev James Robertson, set sail such seed and seed and formulation of the seed and formulation of the seed and seed from Scotland for the New World. It was uncanny, almost as if this venture had been preordained

seemed to offer unparalleled opportunities. He is one of America's most accomplished TV evangelists, as well as a highly successful businessman in his own right. The idea of setting up a low-cost online bank in the US with Mr Robertson responsible for weeks." the promotion, seemed just too good to re-

Going online is regarded as very much the way forward for retail banking and it offers new entrants such as Bank of Scotland the opportunity to establish a market position at virtually no cost. The millions of od-fearing Americans who regularly tune to watch Mr Robertson's shows offered a captive, and potentially very lucrative market. It seemed like a deal made in heaven.

Except that this is not how it turned out. Bank of Scotland's association with Mr Robertson has turned into a public relations disaster of monumental proportions. Hundreds of students, union leaders, politicians and church activists have declared a boycott of Bank of Scotland in protest, and the link-up has been almost universally condemned in the Scottish

Some protesters have handcuffed themselves to the railings of the bank's Edinburgh headquarters. Mr Robertson, they say, is a bigot, whose anti-gay, anti-feminist and often extreme right-wing views should have set warning lights flashing among the staid grey suits at Bank of Scotland.

Security Security Security Committee Security Security Security Indiana Security Sec Both the bank and Mr Robertson are determined to ride the storm. Mr Robertson, ative Christians but loathed by the politiis claimed, has in the past been able to Livert hurricanes with the power of prayer, and if he can do that, surely he should be able weather this gale.

But, with the bank's share price beginning to suffer, and the possibility that the Caesar's - or, in other words, to pay his current comparatively limited protest

could grow into something more damaging, doubts are beginning to creep in. Certainly the normally thick-skinned Mr Robertson has been shocked to his core by canes and perhaps a meteor would strike and sold to

BY ANDREW MARSHALL AND ANDREW COLLIER

t looked like a marriage made in heaven. The bank with the impeccable Calvinist credentials and the \_\_\_pastor with an interest in online banking. But the American TV evangelist the Rev Pat Robertson moved in ways that were too mysterious for the conservative



parishioners of Edinburgh, and the Bank of Scotland found itself embroiled in an unholy public relations disaster of near biblical proportions

by the distortion", he has been quoted as saying. "They (the British media) make the American press look like choir boys. I'm proud of my Scottish heritage but that pride has been somewhat diminished over recent

So who is Mr Robertson, and why do so many Scots find him so objectionable? These are just some of Mr Robertson's views: he thinks gays are Satanists, that Presbyterians are the "spirit of the Anti-Christ", and that Hindus and Muslims are inferior to Christians.

Pat Robertson is a businessman, a politician and a religious leader, and about as controversial as you can get in each sphere. His varied activities over the past decade have prompted many to ask which pursuit comes first for him, and how far his

different activities are kept separate. Mr Robertson is a hugely wealthy man who lives on a mountain in Virginia. The Christian Coalition, the religious and political group which he founded, has 1.8 million members, 1,900 chapters and brings in tens of millions of dollars in donations every year. If what Bank of Scotland is looking for is someone with expertise in communication, modern campaigning techniques and a grasp of technology, ter qualified to govern America then Mr Robertson certainly has his at-

But that is balanced by his public image. Mr Robertson is a controversial figure in the US, hugely popular amongst conservcal centre and left. He has put himself in the spotlight not just for his statements about gays and other religions, but by a series of legal actions that have, in effect, told him to render unto Caesar that which is

His views on gays have embarrassed even his followers on occasions. For in- was snun stance, he forecast that tornadoes, hurri- off in 1990.

For Bank of Scotland, Mr Robertson also the degree of hostility. "I'm just appalled Disney World in Orlando because it hosts gav events. "Many of those people involved with Adolf Hitler were Satanists, many of them were homosexuals," he has said. "The two things seem to go together."

He is not that friendly towards other Christian denominations, let alone other religions. "You say you're supposed to be nice to the Episcopalians and the Presbyterians and the Methodists

and this, that, and the other thing," he said on January 14, 1991, "Nonsense. I don't have to be nice to the spirit of the Anti-Christ."

Mr Robertson has also insulted Hindus and Muslims. "When I said during my presidential bid that I would only bring Christians and Jews into the government, I hit a firestorm. What do you mean?' the media challenged me. 'You're not going to bring atheists into the government? How dare you maintain that those who believe in the Judeo-Christian values are betthan Hindus and Muslims" My simple answer is, 'Yes, they are.'

Mr Robertson started his business career by buying a small television channel in Virginia. He walked in one day in 1960 and said that "God has sent me here to buy your television station". This he turned into the Christian Broadcasting Network, a tax-exempt organisation and a vast enterprise that has expanded into a global business empire.

The Family Channel

Rupert Murdoch and other partners in 1997 for \$1.8bn (£1.1bn). Mr Robertson's Christian Coalition was eventually built into the largest and most important vehicle for the Christian right. In 1988 he went so far as to run for the White House, successfully beating George Bush in several Republi-

can primary races.

Not all of his businesses have been successful. Standard News, a radio service, and Zap-News, a daily fax service, were sold after both failed to meet expectations. Another business. Kalo Vita was formed to sell "Sea of

Galilee" mud masks and

"American Whey." but it was not a success. Questions have been raised about the separation of his business, religious and charitable enterprises. For instance, Mr Robertson went into business in Zaire with Africa Development Company, a diamond venture.

That became an embarrassment after pilots who were supposed to be flying relief flights into the country for Mr Robertson's Operation Blessing said that they had actually been supplying the diamond venture. The issue is still being investigated in Virginia. There were also questions asked about Mr Robertson's links with former Zairean dictator Mobutu Sese Seko, who was banned from the US, overthrown and died in

> The Federal Election Commission launched a case against the Christian Coalition alleging illegal partisan electioneering.

a charity. The investigation turned up some interesting tapes of Mr Robertson sounding less like a preacher than an oldfashioned party political boss. "Look, we put you in power in 1994," he said of the Republican-dominated Congress, "and we want you to deliver."

The Internal Revenue Service, after a lengthy probe of the CBN, retroactively revoked its tax-free status for two years in the 1980s, and made it pay an undisclosed fine for contributing to Mr Robertson's presidential campaign.

Is this really the sort of man Bank of Scotland ought to be associating itself with? In banking terms, the link-up seems to make sound financial sense. Mr Robertson has 55 million people regularly tuning in to watch his robust and populist diatribes. Drive those viewers towards a new bank bearing the Robertson imprint, and it could amount to an awful lot of dollars going on deposit.

This is not, though, to be any old bank: the idea is to launch an Internet-based operation. Competition in this sector is tough in the US - the new kid on the block would be up against established players such as Telebanc Financial Corporation and Atlanta-based NetBiank - but, with online banking growing by more than 100 per cent a year, the potential rewards are massive.

In recent years, Bank of Scotland, under the stewardship of its low key but nevertheless dynamic and visionary chief executive, Peter Burt, has been both successful and innovative. Its direct banking tie-up with Sainsburys, for instance, brought in 700.000 customers and more than £1.5m in a year.

The problem with the proposed venture was not its financial appeal: it was the reputation of Mr Robertson himself. Leading figures at the bank's headquarters were aware of the broad thrust of Mr Robertson's views when they signed up. Crucially, which would be a they still chose to go ahead with the deal, breach of its status as presumably believing that opposition to his

views would not survive the journey across the Atlantic, or - perhaps more likely - that the business benefits of the tie-up would far outweigh any PR problems. It did not take long for their judgement to be proved lacking. News of the proposed venture caused indignation right across Scotland. Gay campaigners, outraged by Mr Robertson's anti-homosexual stance, view the deal with the same contempt that antiapartheid campaigners used to voice about the dealings of Barclays in South Africa, and have called for the pink pound to be shifted elsewhere.

Edinburgh University Students' Association, with a turnover of £7m, said it was considering its position, while the Londonbased property management agent, Duncan Lustig-Prean, said he would be writing to legal firms advising them that his company would not assign certificates on consent to transfer where a Bank of Scotland mortgage was involved.

The worst blow of all for the bank, however, was the threat that the ecumenical body Action for Churches Together in Scotland (Acts), which represents the main Christian denominations who have 1.5 million adherents, could withdraw its account from the bank. The Episcopalalian Bishop of Edinburgh, the Most Rev Richard Holloway, said Mr Robertson's beliefs were against everything the church es stood for.

As the media raged, the bank's share price slipped by 10 per cent and analysts such as Capel Cure Sharp in the US warned that the move was causing their

clients a good deal of concern. As the row continued, the bank turned to a professional public relations company, Media House of Glasgow, to try and get its message across. This appointment, however, turned out to be almost as big a mistake as its original deal with Mr Robertson. Media House is run by Jack Irvine, a dyedin-the-wool tabloid journalist who is a former Scottish editor of The Sun and has a reputation for writing hard-hitting columns for the Scottish edition of The Mirror. Irvine was an odd choice of mouthpiece, and it did not take long for new problems to develop. When politicians of all colours on Edinburgh City Council united in voting to write to the bank, deploring its actions, he responded by retorting that they "have a worldwide reputation for putting their foot in their mouth, and this is in keeping with that tradition ... in the run-up to the Scottish elections we are seeing somewhat hysterical behaviour, and this is an example of it." Up at the bank's headquarters on The Mound you could almost hear heads banging on tables.

For all the high farce of the situation, however, nothing has changed. The bank is still intent on pushing the deal through. Mr Robertson is shaken, but remains unrepentant. Protesters, for their part, are now aiming to raise an international petition via the Internet. At this stage, few are prepared to predict who will eventually gain the upper hand - commerce or ethics.

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# ENTERPRISE ISSUES All that clusters could be gold – for Britain plc

easy. That means policy discussions on how to boost productivity and competitiveness tend to focus on rather abstract methods upskilling, benchmarking and the like. Management theorists get down to more nitty gritty matters, but even they tend to focus on bigpicture corporate strategies and human resource policies.

Abstraction is essential, of course, but sometimes we need to remember that business involves actual people. More than that, companies exist in actual places, but it is rare to hear about how place can be made to contribute to the productivity of UK plc.

The competitiveness White Paper published late last year actually had a stab at it, as it focused on the idea of clusters of industri-

One of the most noteworthy things about economic activity is that it tends to be heavily concentrated geographically, with specific

TO THINK of businesses as dis- types of business often close to- too high for the North - and too embodied, abstract things is all too gether - cutlery in Sheffield and cotton in Manchester are now software in Cambridge and call cen- around this, but there are ways in tres in Glasgow.

This poses two sorts of policy question. For national governments, the issue is encouraging the development of as many clusters of as many sorts as possible. For local government, it is how to develop as a cluster, probably in competition with other centres. The existing framework for setting poticy is not well geared towards addressing these questions at either level of government.

Take the vexed matter of interest rates. Every time the Bank of England has cut rates - six times in seven months - representatives of manufacturing industry have condemned it for not going far

Setting interest rates to suit the economy rather than just the struggling manufacturing sector is equivalent, in Britain, to setting rates too low for the South-east and

high for the urban centres of traditional industry. There is no way which policies can adjust to take account of geography.

For instance, there is a crying need for national co-ordination of the competing subsidies different areas offer potential inward investors. A national body might well have to take unpopular decisions to designate preferred locations for certain types of investor.

The national government also has an important role in regulatory and competition policies, and in the big-picture planning on transport infrastructure. Many businesses locate in places it is easy to get out of, so decisions about the motorway, rail and air network have a big impact on certain towns at the expense of others.

The policy agenda becomes more difficult at local level. Most local authorities keep policies in separate compartments: economic development, planning, transport,



DIANE COYLE

There's a crying need for national co-ordination of all subsidies for different areas

look at the big picture can rarely translate broad conclusions into an across-the-board strategy.

The main conclusion of a recent series of papers on cities is that urban policies need this broad sweep. The summary paper\* proposes a series of "policy handshakes" as a device for joining up local policies that have traditionally remained separate.

One obvious example - when you think about it - is that housing and education policy ought to be related because people's decisions about where to live are conditioned by where they want to send their children to school.

Therefore improving a school can regenerate an estate. This matters for business because potential employees will not move to work for a company if they cannot live their lives as they want - people, as well as companies, exist in specific places. Once you start

housing, education and so on. making the links it is hard to stop. Even those with effective enter- Thus education policy affects prise agencies whose job it is to transport planning too, because if people decide they have to send their children to independent schools it will lead to an increase in car traffic as harassed parents do the motorised school run rather

> local school. A further implication of this train of argument is that policies can no longer be left in the hands of the professions that have traditionally monopolised them.

> As the paper puts it, local gov-ernment has been run - not very effectively - as a form of command and control economy. The authors write: "In many cities the existing political structures and city lead-ership find it difficult to respond to the speed and nature of change in modern economies."

> Professional local government and planning officials have tended to set policies without much sensitivity to the real needs of

body who has tried to influence a local authority decision such as the placing of a crossing or traffic island will see the truth of this.

Some of the most successful clusters are in new science parks developed with the direct input of the businesses using them. This is than walking their children to the a sign that it has been too hard to generate the same hives of entrepreneurship and wealth creation in existing urban centres, despite their huge advantages such as shops, cafés and bus stops.

The success of the out-of-town science park is a badge of business failure for town centres, just as much as the existence of the outof-town shopping centre. Many new businesses have decided they will create their own places, but it would boost British productivity if all places could be made as attractive to companies.

\*The Richness of Cities: Final Report, by Ken Worpole and Liz Greenhalgh, Comedia and Demos, £15, tel 01509 890068



Lyric Hughes used her contacts as a springboard for the company's success

Sinead Lynch/Financial Times

# China yields to a brave new Web 邓小平同志追悼大会

BY DIANE COYLE

"IF WE were making a profit already, I wouldn't be doing my job," says Lyric Hughes, chief executive of China Online, a one-year-old Internet company.

Yet after an initial scramble for funds, financing the new company is proving almost alarmingly easy. "To start with would go to all sorts of lengths for a \$100,000 investment, but recently people have been ringing up to offer tens of millions." she says. "I do return all the calls still," she adds

This eagerness to invest in the Internet is expanding Ms Hughes's ambitions, and their range offers an insight into the online business. Her original plan to bring news out of China to the world has expanded to include taking the world into China. Chinese Internet service there is huge demand for Chinese-language content. "I'm causing some alarm to my board. I had thought we would do this some years down the pornography, but otherwise line, but this business moves incredibly quickly," she says. She is also considering expanding her Internet news service to other relatively unwired parts of the globe, such as Africa.

The genesis of China Online was her 20 years' experience working for an international marketing agency that served US companies in China. Her expertise and contacts allowed her to fax out information about events in the aftermath of the death of Deng Xiaoping earlier than anybody else - earlier even than the Chinese newspapers since they provided her with news before printing it themselves.

But it was the growth of the Internet as a means of distribution that allowed her to set up Memorial rites for the Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, the aftermath of whose death was reported earliest by Lyric Hughes, later chief executive of China Online

China Online. "We are a cally They are small and weak, almost endless possibilities still technology-enabled company," so the market is effectively available to the pioneers of she says. "Without the Web as open to an outsider. a distribution mechanism it would have taken us many years and much more money. Most people assume that any online provider in China

censorship, but Ms Hughes is vehement in her rejection of this idea. The authorities are extremely concerned about regard the Internet as a useful means of free expression, she argues. Not once have they complained to her about any news item carried by the service, which Zhu Rongji, the Chinese premier, reads regularly. This contrasts sharply with the control freaks at Microsoft, for example, who exert considerably more effort than the Chinese government to dictate China Online's content.

Her new ambition is to create, in addition to the existing English language news service on China, a package of news, entertainment and sport in Chinese for China. The structure of local telecommunications costs has made it impossible for Internet service providers to thrive domesti-

Ms Hughes approached Ark Capital, a Chicago-based venture capital firm specialising in ethnic minority businesses, to help to raise an initial \$5m a providers are few and weak, yet has a problem with state year ago. She is the first female entrepreneur backed by Ark. Of the 1,800 venture capitalbacked start-ups in the US last

year, 50 are headed by women. The company's financial plan envisages break-even point next year or soon after but the timing depends on the choice of strategy. The more ambitious it is, the later the profits start to roll in. The point, she argues, is to build a brand name and ensure that the company is first in its field. That is what builds competitive strength in the fledgling Internet economy.

Ms Hughes is the absolute antithesis of the computer nerds who have founded so many other e-businesses. Her senior colleagues in the 28 person company include Doug McGill, who set up the Bloomberg operation in Hong Kong. The company's chairman is David Hale, the economic pundit at the Zurich Group in

Chicago. Then there are the employees: "They are there when I get to work and I have to send them home at night," says Ms Hughes, who has two children. China Online has more than 300 consultants and analysts to call on.

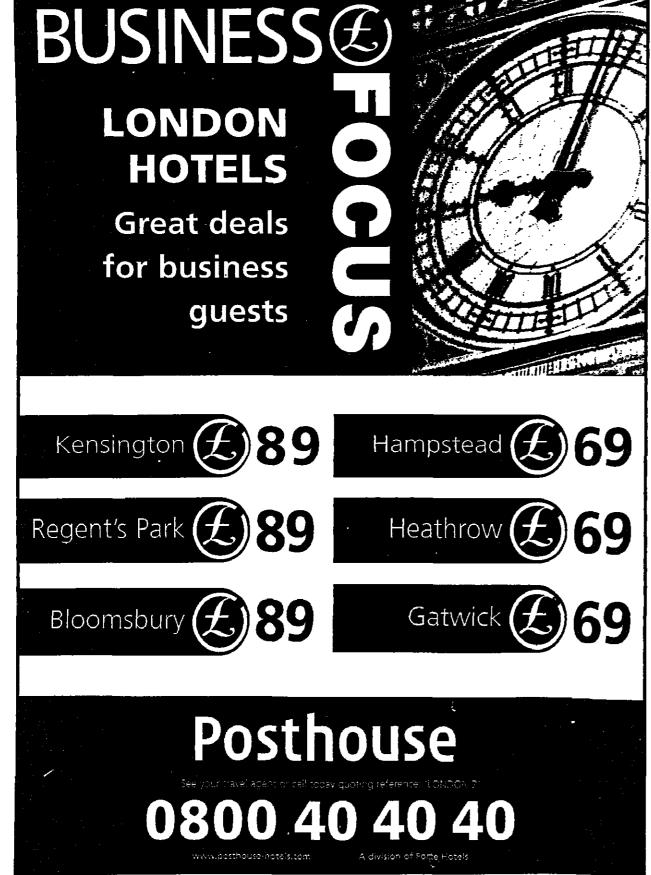
There are three existing strands to the business. It is a news agency, which has customers such as Reuters and the Financial Times. It provides a proprietary database and information service to corporate customers, including giants such as AT&T, that do business in China.

Thirdly, and perhaps still most important for growth, China Online is setting up partnerships with e-commerce companies, which will allow them to crack the enormous Chinese market. China already has 4 million Internet users, more than the UK. This is forecast to grow to 10 million by next year and overtake the US online market by about

2006. "People in China don't really have access to shops and goods at all. They don't have banks as we know them," she says, arguing that the country might well skip the stage of having high street shops and banks.

Ms Hughes clearly has a vision of almost infinite possibilities for her business, combined with a sense of urgency about the need to grow. As with so many net entrepreneurs. whose enthusiasm is perhaps the most convincing argument for believing the US economy does have new fundamental strength, Ms Hughes sees a bright future for her China Online. "Perhaps we will hit a brick wall, but if you're not running so fast that you might crash into the wall, you're not running tast enough," she says.

http://www.chinaonline.com



availability with a literated number of monts available at these propositional rates. Bookings to be made ma Central Reservations prior to arrival at hotel. These offers cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or special promotion. Posthouse hotels reserves the night to suspend this special offer at any time without prior notice. Any confirmed or guaranteed bookings cancelled after 2pm on day of arrival and be faible to a non-arrival charge of the first night's terms. All unconfirmed bookings will be released at 2pm on day of arrival. Rates are correct at time of going to press but are subject to change at any time.

Why my union wars ended JOHN MONKS, 53, was edumembership and neither the as it had been in the 1970s. I cated at technical school and at Nottingham University. He spent two years in the electronics industry before joining the TUC in 1969. He

MY BIGGEST MISTAKE: JOHN MONKS

secretary in 1993. He is also a visiting professor at Umist. My biggest mistake was to believe so long in conflict being inevitable in the world of work. I strongly believed unions were there to explain and manage discontent, and that meant there would be a high degree of dispute. That was the general view. There

was a lot of conflict in the late

1970s and early 1980s - at

became its deputy general

secretary in 1987, and general

least one major strike a year. It was also philosophical: I believe organisations are pluralist in a social sense and there's a difference of inter-

vailing philosophy of industrial relations. I didn't take a Marxist view, more a social democratic perspective in the European sense. It seemed to be the way things were.

But there was clearly a decline in the big areas of traditional manufacturing, and there had been three million jobs lost in factories between 1980 and 1983 – so there had been quite a big loss of union industrial military strategy had worked, nor the political strategy. Labour didn't get elected in 1987, and it was looking long odds that they would ever get elected. The Damascus experience,

for me, was in that year. We conducted a survey of what people wanted from work, and we found most people liked the organisation for which they worked, and they wanted the esteem of the person for whom they worked. What people wanted was to do better. rather than look for dispute.

It led me to think hard about what unions should be doing, and to be a leading advocate for partnership. I thought about how we would translate it into union strategy-and I realised that was the challenge. We had to appeal to people in the changing world, not wish the world was back by the end of the year.

started to put these things into practice more when I became general secretary of the TUC.

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The TUC had to move from being a bureaucratic, processled organisation to one that was project-dominated, with people measured by outcomes. We wanted to make partnerships with employers the goal, seeking relationships to gain trust, and using that basis to change quickly and smoothly without disputes and disruption.

We have started to evangelise this kind of trade union. Many companies still don't respond positively to the partnership message.

But an increasing number do, including Tesco, Legal & General, Barclays, British Aerospace, Co-op Bank and the Inland Revenue. We aim to double the number

BRITISH TELECOM was in the news

again earlier this week. Telecom

Italia, the former state-owned oper-

ator, was reportedly looking for a

white knight to rescue it from a hos-

tile takeover by Olivetti, the type-

writer-maker that has reinvented

itself as a telecom group. As a former state-owned company itself, BT was

named as an ideal candidate to step

As it happens, the odds are that

BT will not bid for Telecom Italia. But

the mere fact that the company is

named as a leading candidate - and

the fact that its shareholders do not

panic at the prospect of it mounting

a 55bn Euro (£37bn) acquisition - is

a sign of how far BT has come in a

It may seem hard to believe now,

but it's less than two years since BT

was seen as the company that need-

ed rescuing. The former monopoly

appeared to be under attack from all

sides. Aggressive new operators

were luring away its most lucrative

business customers by offering bet-

ter services at cheaper rates. Its res-

idential customer base, under

pressure from the cable operators.

seemed condemned to a fate of

tablish a clear lead in the emerging

mobile phone market. Two failed

mergers - first with Cable & Wire-

less, then with MCI of the United

States - had left its international

strategy in tatters. Critics were

beginning to question the manage-

ment skills of Sir Peter Bonfield, the

be more different. BT's share price

is riding high, prompted by an

explosion of data and Internet traffic

that has helped give its residential

business a new lease of life. A £10bn

international joint venture with

AT&T, the US giant, has restored

BT's credibility with its largest in-

Still, stock markets are prone to

exaggeration. If investors were pre-

maturely writing off BT two years

next major challenge is only just

"What we are facing is that every

four years we need to completely

transform ourselves," says Andy

sizing and then making ours

telecommunications company."

ternational clients.

around the corner.

overtaken by data.

newly appointed chief executive. Today, the situation could hardly

The group had taken its eye off Cellnet, allowing rival Vodafone to es-

managed decline.

relatively short space of time.

into the breach.

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#### CORPORATE PROFILE

wo years ago BT's primacy in telecoms was under threat as aggressive newcomers outmanoeuvred the company. Now it is in a position to take on (or take over) allcomers. But it's not just talking a good game...

# BY PETER THAL LARSEN



Sir Peter Bonfield, chief executive of BT, finishing a quick call before announcing the company's results in November 1998

# The call of the wired

about everything BT does at the mo- on its rivals by offering simple mesago, they are probably being a shade ment. The company is pouring cash over-enthusiastic about its prospects at the moment. In the fast-forward into building new Internet-based orld of technological innovation, the networks, both in the UK and in continental Europe, while capping the amount it spends on its traditional circuit-switched network. The same Internet-based architecture will

Green, BT's director of strategy and development. "After first downmore marketing-driven, we need high-speed Internet access over now to turn ourselves into a data copper telephone wires) should be available later this year. "We see the future as a world that is 'always on' He is referring to the projected explosion in data traffic, helped by the with significantly higher bandwidth growth of the Internet and the arrival available in the home," says Mr

Internet-based technologies. which allow large amounts of infor-Meanwhile, BT has linked up mation to be squeezed down existing with Microsoft to explore the possitelephone lines. At the moment, bility of piping Internet-based services to mobile phone terminals. most telecom firms make the lion's share of their revenues from tradi-Cellnet, which even though it is not tional voice calls. Over the next wholly-owned has now been fully indecade, however, voice is likely to be tegrated into BT's management structure, is also attempting to re-This realisation underlies just gain some of the ground it has lost

saging and e-mail services. And BT is carefully planning its bid for one of the five third-generation UK mobile phone licences, which will make mobile phones capable of highspeed data communications.

Yet some wonder whether this will form the basis of BT's joint venture be enough. After all, BT's success so far has come partly from being in the At the same time, ADSL (a right place at the right time. The sud-schoology that gives customers den acceleration in local call rev-

Based in St Paul's.

City of London

Chairman:

Market

£70bn

£3.2bn

1997/98:

Chief Executive:

Sir Peter Bonfield

Capitalisation:

Pre-tax profit

Sir lain Vallance (right)

enues - a main feature of its last set a market innovator, but on the other service aggressively, reaping the of quarterly results - was largely attributable to the free Internet services that were pioneered by the likes of Dixons' Freeserve.

The picture is complicated by BT's continued dominance of the UK residential market - 15 years after privatisation, it still has more than 80 per cent of all residential customers.

business lines:

Internet access

7.8 million

Number of

customers:

customers:

Employees:

cellular

4 million

500.000

125,000

hand it's a market defender," says benefits in terms of the extra Chris Godsmark, telecoms analyst traffic that the availability of highat Investec Henderson Crosthwaite. speed Internet and data services This translates into a reluctance to would almost certainly generate. introduce any innovations that might But the feeling is that the "beanundermine the existing revenue counting" mentality still prevalent in parts of BT will probably prevent

An example is ADSL, which is

likely to have an expensive price tag when it is first introduced. A more find itself missing the most valuable sarily strong balance sheet. The

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supplying the pipes for telecom traffic has been lucrative for BT so far, the worry is that this will become a commodity product with rapidly **BRITISH TELECOM** falling prices. share price, pence

such a move.

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"Where BT has been less successful is in becoming a dominant retail Internet company," says Investec's Mr Godsmark, "It could have already become a portal operator along with the likes of Freeserve."

While Mr Green insists that BT is determined to remain what he calls a "communications company" it does not plan to expand into tele-

vision or other media - the company is clearly not averse to supplying services. It is an equal shareholder in Open, the interactive shopping service available on the Sky Digital satellite television platform. It also has a shareholding in LineOne, the Internet service. Eschewing the term "content", Mr Green opts for a different buzzword - "context" - as a definition of what BT plans to offer.

At the international level, BT has been carefully picking strategic investments in fixed and mobile telecom operators from Italy to Indonesia. The continental European investments are already beginning to generate a profit, although most of the Asian investments are still losing money. An exception is last week's 240m venture in a 20 per cent stake in SmarTone, the highly profitable Hong Kong mobile phone operator.

The value of these investments is beginning to shine through in BT's share price. "People realise that BT is not just a domestic business," says Jim McCafferty, head of European telecoms research at SG Securities. "They are wondering: 'if Orange is worth £10bn then how many stakes in operators like Orange does BT

Going forward, however, the challenge is to make the most of these investments. When taking a stake. BT normally insists on retaining the right to help choose the operator's technology, even though it may not have overall control. This allows it to build up experience in one country: which can be transferred to

"BT is transforming itself into more of a normal multinational with a series of global product lines," says

One hole in BT's portfolio is Japan, which is a key market in its quest to build a truly global alliance with AT&T. The two companies are rumoured to be close to investing in Japan Telecom, a smaller operator. But analysts reckon its sights should be set higher. "They need to pick up a big player which would give them access to large Japanese multinationals," says John Matthews, principal consultant at industry analysts Ovum. "A deal with NTT or KDD would be a big prize."

A deal in Japan, combined with the long-awaited buy-out of Securicor's 40 per cent shareholding in Celinet, would help one of BT share-Another concern is that BT will holders' other gripes: its unnecesup to the 50 per cent level from about 3 per cent at the moment. But shareholders have also made it clear that they do not want the cash returned to them.

> So BT is looking for investments. But having watched his reputation grow with the help of some clever moves and a following wind. Sir Peter will be reluctant to risk it If BT does resist the temptation

> of bidding for Telecom Italia, nothing could better demonstrate how far the company has come in the past

## THE PLAYER: IAIN SAVILLE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF CRESTCO

Turnover 1997/98:

residential lines:

£15.6bn

Number of

20.1 million

# grou, As this Riding the electronic crest of a financial wave

PERSONAL DETAILS: Aged 50. and to budget in July 1996. "We have Lives in south London. Drives K-the most capable real time settleregistered Vauxhall Carlton Estate. ments system in the world," said Mr Pay: £172,000 including bonus in 1998. He sings with the Dulwich Choral Society.

CHALLENGE: "To win the hearts mental flop" that was Talisman, the old Stock Exchange settlement system. His mission is to persuade retail investors to follow institutional investors and "move into an elec-Pronic world" where there are no paper share certificates.

CORPORATE BACKGROUND: Mr Saville set up CRESTCo in 1994, uities, through CREST. while on secondment from the Bank CREST, the electronic settlements

Saville. He was elected chairman of ECSDA, the association of European Depositories, in March 1998.

Prior to joining CRESTCo, he worked at the Bank of England as and minds of our customers," says
Mr Saville, following the "monumanaged the UK's \$40bn (£25bn) of foreign reserves in bond and money market derivatives worldwide.

STRATEGY: Mr Saville sees CREST as a "great technical plat-. Saville. form for the future". The objective is to persuade businesses, regulators and customers to settle additional financial instruments, other than eq-

Over the next 18 months, gilts and of England. In 1997, he left the Bank money market instruments will to complete the establishment of start to be settled through CREST with the hope that unit trusts and system for corporate securities in other mutual funds will follow at a the UK and Ireland, which was the later date. Fidelity, M&G, Gartmore successor to the failed TAURUS pro- and Royal Sun Alliance have all ject. CREST was delivered on time expressed support for the idea. Mr error rate is below one in 100. Over

the opportunity of a much-enhanced. secure distribution channel to the wholesale market."

According to Mr Saville, electronic settlement through CREST would be cheaper, quicker and would allow customers to make further use of their investment in CREST systems. This, in turn, is expected to drive down costs all round the financial services industry. CREST offers "a single market of excellence in cash market settlement", says Mr

The industry is now routinely processing volumes thought unimaginable four or five years ago. CRESTCo currently settles about 150,000 transactions each day, worth £35bn. Before CREST, one in five trades failed to settle on time. Now that figure has improved to fewer than one in 20, with most of the problems originating in bargains where people are using paper share certificates. For large institutions the



80 per cent of the market capitalisation of UK shares are now held in electronic form. "I would be surprised if customers don't think CREST is working for them," said

lationships with other major European settlement systems, although he says "building these links is not easy". A common model will have to be agreed, to enable stock issued in one country to be held and settled in another.

We have shared interests in opening up our systems to each other," says Mr Saville, who forecasts good market growth in the short to medium term. But competition may prove to be a problem in the long term. "The end game is likely to be a single hub for Europe," says Mr

Switzerland, with other countries to follow in due course. The major use of the links, initially, is likely to be for the settlement of small and mediumsized trades in European securities. CREST's objective is to make holding and settling European securities look as similar as possible to holding and settling UK and Irish secu-

tensely open and consultative, but hard-driven," says Mr Saville. One hundred and eighty people are employed in open-plan offices at CRESTCo - very few of them are conventional back office people. There is a "very flat, open and cooperative management structure", says Mr Saville. "People should be able to participate in the development of the business."

MOST ADMIRES IN BUSINESS: Howard Davies, chairman of the Financial Services Authority (FSA). He has brought good humour, ele-In July, a link will be made to gance and energy to starting to create a unified regulator," in Mr Saville's opinion.

He also respects Iain Vallance, chairman of BT, "who did a wonderful job of turning BT into a real business using both drive and energy". In both cases, Mr Saville says leadership was important added to the ability "to take people in a new direction".

managing partner at Killik & Co stockbrokers, thinks most people are "impressed with what CREST has achieved in the aftermath of the TAURUS fiasco. Ian Saville and his team have really shown great strength in driving the project forward," said Mr Ort, whose clients are keen to invest in the likes of Nokia, Siemens and some of the American technology stocks.

-CREST is the best hope we have got for European settlement," says Justin Urqhuart Stewart, corporate development director of Barclays Stockbrokers. At the moment. because of the plethora of charges involved, most private investors are better off with investment trusts or unit trusts if they want to hold overseas shares.

Mr Urghuart Stewart says that the proof of whether CREST's European links have worked will be when "I can settle a trade in Deutsche Telecom for much the same cost as I can for BT".

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THE CANARY

Barclays farce: To say that the decision to retire Mike O'Neill (below) on health grounds on the first day of his iob as chief executive of Barclays took the organisation by surprise is something of an understatement. When the call came through last Thursday from California informing the

Middleton that his new recruit was suffering from more than flu he was just about to take a weekend away with Ladv Middleton to mark the fact that he was about to hand over the reins and settle back to his part-time role as nonexecutive chairman. Now it is back to square one.

acting chief Sir

C'est la vie.

Gorgeous George: The financier George Soros's third place in a list of Britain's 1.000 richest people, published last weekend, provokes a couple of thoughts. First, we always thought George was a Hungarian living in America. Second, his funds have had a ghastly start to the year. The \$6.9bn (£4.1bn) Quantum Fund lost 15.5 per cent of its net assets in the first guarter of 1999. If he invests in his own funds perish the thought - his wealth should have shrunk rather than grown. A call to Soros Fund Management's headquarters to answer these pressing concerns is met with a firm "No comment".

Merrill merger: The courtship between Chase Manhattan, the giant American commercial bank. and Merrill Lynch, the giant American investment bank, is said to be nearing consummation. There is no official confirmation, but talk to anybody in Merrill Lynch's London office, where a deal is expected around July, and the conversation inevitably turns to the value of their share options. "We'll wait for the share price to peak, then head off," says our source at Merrill in London.

Going green: Despite record revenue in 1998, Reuters is planning to move more of its operations from London to Devon, it already has its fixedincome operations in sleepy Tiverton, Reuters is surprisingly tight-lipped about the plans considering it is an information company, but loval Devon staff say the reason is to cut costs. An average salary in the Tiverton office is around £15,000. That's small beer compared to the £800,000-plus trousered by Peter Job. the 57-year-old former journalist and chief executive. A decision will be announced in May.

# Who is the banker who carries most credit?

MARKET LEADERS PICK THEIR MARKET LEADER

Derek Waniess

Chief Executive, NatWest Bank GIVEN THE many changes that are taking place in retail banking, I would nominate my colleague, Tim Jones, who heads NatWest's retail bank. To be successful in financial services management, you need to be creative as well as having sound financial management skills. Tim has both. He led the team that invented Mondex, the electronic cash purse, helped to pioneer Switch, and he is now responsible for the transformation of NatWest's retail bank into one of the most advanced banking systems anywhere in the world.

From an external perspective, I share everyone's admiration for Sir Brian Pitman, of Lloyds TSB. His contribution to the financial services industry over many years including his commitment to achieving ever improving returns to shareholders are obvious for all to see. He has a formidable track record, combining a far-sighted vision for his own organisation with solid banker values.

Mervyn Pedelty

Chief Executive, Co-op Bank FOR VISION and integrity, I nominate my own predecessor Lord Thomas. His determination to publicise the fact that what retail banks actually do is to look after their customers' own money, and that those same customers deserve to know and have a say in how their money is invested, was courageous and laid the foundations for our ethical stance and success. For business acumen, quiet in-

fluence and achievement, I have long admired an often unsung hero, Richard Delbridge, director and CFO of NatWest Group. Richard's career includes the same roles at HSBC and Midland Bank and as UK head of JP Morgan. I am impressed with NatWest's recent surefootedness in refocusing itself. Richard's steady hand has undoubtedly played its usual key role.

And, no list could be complete without Peter Ellwood, Lloyds TSB's CEO. Peter is an outstanding example of that rare ability to combine strategy formulation with effective implementation.

Group Chief Executive, Alliance & Leicester plc

RETAIL BANKING has changed dramatically during the 1990s with a much greater understanding of the need to improve efficiency and customer service while at the same time focusing on increasing shareholder value. On these criteria it is difficult to look beyond Sir Brian Pitman who, as chief executive of Lloyds Bank (now the Lloyds TSB Group), took what was the smallest of the clearing banks to a leading position in the UK market. His decision to concentrate on a largely domestic strategy while other banks made expensive forays into investment bank-

ing et al has been fully vindicated. Another market leader is Peter Birch who took Abbey National to the stock market in 1989 and helped to show that converted building societies have nothing to fear from the commercial marketplace.

Gary Hoffman Managing Director at Barclays Retail Financial Services IT WOULD be difficult to talk about personalities in retail banking without mentioning Sir Brian Pitman



ly delivered exactly what he's promised. And then there's Martin Taylor who was formerly of Barclays. He brought a completely different style to the running of a traditional bank which was particularly refreshing. He could empathise with the biggest of the institutional shareholders, the smallest of our customers and the people who worked in the bank. He could speak to them all. But really the people I admire most, given that banks are often portrayed as big and bad, are the ones who work on the front line, providing a day-to-day ser-

retail banking is really all about.

Chief Executive, Northern Rock plc SIR BRIAN PITMAN has to top any banking list. He has preached the virtue of shareholder value and he

Brian is well endowed in this respect. With the new banks it is impossible not to think of Peter White of Alliance & Leicester. He's an ebullient character, but steely -

another mandatory quality. Looking at softer management qualities one has to congratulate Brian Davis at Nationwide for rescuing mutuality from a premature demise. He's convinced himself that New Mutuality is as significant as New Labour and has gathered many proselytes to his cause. But the value of mutual building societies is reducing at a steady pace, vice to the customer. That's what which must give their boards of

directors pause for thought. Andy Dewhurst Marketing Director, Tesco Personal Finance

I ADMIRE Sir George Mathewson, of the Bank of Scotland, because he is one

George's vision in developing nonbanking activities. He has encouraged Direct Line to change the face of general insurance by offering convenience, value and high-quality service. He has shown similar vision in developing telephone banking and now in providing what I think is Britain's best Internet banking site.

permarket banking. Supermarkets

have been able to invade the banks' ter-

ritory so successfully because so

many bankers treat customers as an

afterthought. I am impressed by

Frank Sullivan General Manager, Allied Irish Bank

I WOULD like to nominate Peter Ellwood. Group Chief Executive at Lloyds TSB. His company's recent performance is evidence that he and his team have found a successhas delivered it. Absolutely clear of those rare bankers who shares our ful formula. Through an acquisition

strategy and a "no nonsense, value for money" approach, they have recorded an excellent performance. Integrating new businesses, like C&G, is one thing. What is even more impressive is that Peter and his colleagues have managed to add value in doing so. Too often, the result of a merger or acquisition is a blurred. compromised approach. In the Lloyds TSB case, they have come up with an even stronger customer proposition. The new bank focuses on a small number of products, cutting down potential for customer confusion and red tape, placing a high value on customer service. The bank's strategy appears clear and simple.

mature organisation effectively. lan Harley

Chief Executive, Abbey National OBVIOUSLY, I am enormously impressed with my own team. But if I had to pick one person who stands

out in retail banking, it would be Bill Doulton from Midland. He's something of an outsider in our industry really - he's a Canadian. He's fairly new and has very refreshing ideas. He is willing to challenge established views in banking. He has tried to inject our banking establishment with something of the interesting things that they are doing over in Canada. He is full of energy and enthusiasm and resilience. He is a tough chap but has humility.

Chief Executive, Allied Irish Bank THERE ARE two banks which we find it difficult to win business from the Bank of Scotland and Lloyds; for this reason, I have great respect and admiration for both. In the Bank of Scotland's case, Sir Bruce Patullo overcame the disadvantage of having little or no presence in England in the early 1980s by successfully developing alternative channels – electronic and partnerships - which have allowed it to reach large numbers of customers

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without the need for branches. However, my vote for the most influential leader in our industry must go to Sir Brian Pitman who has transformed Lloyds bank from "one of the pack" in UK banking to a highperforming business that is admired internationally. He has been the UK's leading proponent of shareholder value even before it was popular or well understood, and his relentless pursuit of value, and the clarity and simplicity with which he communicates it sets him apart. He has shown great courage and selfbelief in resisting the temptation to follow the herd in expanding internationally or into investment banking - both directions have proved very costly for his erstwhile larger competitors. He has equally demonstrated vision and consistency in pursuing his value-based strategy through astute acquisitions and through divestment of noncore businesses at home and abroad. The measure of his success in translating philosophy into reality is best illustrated by his outstanding record of doubling shareholder value every three years for the past 15 years.

Ray Entwhistle

Chief Executive, Adam and Co pic I AM a great admirer of Sir Brian Pitman and the dynamic force he has shown as a banker along with Jeremy Morse, former Chairman of Barclays, and Sir George Mathewson. of the Bank of Scotland. In the 1970s and 1980s Sir Brian was probably one of the most powerful men in banking, and going back 20 years I remember meeting him at a dinner party. I found it intriguing that a man of his status was prepared to listen to someone of my somewhat lower status. Without a doubt he was the forerunner of the transformation of the banking industry. He was totally focused on shareholder value. Interestingly he was ruthless in getting rid of the over-50s from the business because they were too highly paid, in his opinion, and he was the first to recognise this. I find what he's done slightly heart-Ellwood has managed to simplify a rending; he has removed the traditional professional banker and has replaced him or her with a highly trained sales force - but he has been enormously successful. He has done what he was paid to do.

INTERVIEWS BY SALLY CHATTERTON

## BOOK OF THE WEEK

# The old common sense will not do

By Michael Lissack and Brealey Publishing, £18)

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES, the US regional carrier run by Herb Kelleher, has in recent years become a darling of management writers. It has been praised for its enlightened attitudes towards its staff and, most famously, for thinking "outside the box" - it measures turn-around times against Formula One pit-stop crews, not other airlines.

Now, we are told, it is practising "the next common sense". According to Michael Lissack an investment banker-turned-strategic adviser, and Johan Roos, professor of strategy and general management at the International Institute for Management Development in Switzerland, this involves stepping back from the details to gain a vantage point on what is really happening.

Their starting point is Alexander the Great and the Gordian knot. "Many before Alexander had tried and failed, thinking that the knot was complicated and needed to be untied," they write. Only Alexander saw that a simple action, cutting through the knot with a single stroke of his sword, would move through the complexity to a higher plane, namely ruling Asia. The authors claim that we all face our own Gordian knots, and untying them simply requires

"common sense". The only problem is that the old common sense will not do. That, they say, was about how to deal with the separate and free-standing units of a complicated world. Now, that complication has been replaced by complexity, where various relationships, alliances and networks create a swirl of interweaving events and situations. The new common sense is about creating done, regardless of whose



Which is where Southwest Airlines comes in According to Lissack and Roos, the company embodies coherence by having each employee "think and act like an owner". They point out how Southwest's elimination of inflexible work rules and rigid job descriptions allows its people to assume ownership for getting the job official responsibility it is.

Accordingly, the authors report: "When a flight is running late because of bad weather, it's not uncommon to see pilots helping customers in wheelchairs board the plane, helping the operations agents take boarding passes or the flight attendants clean up

the cabin between flights." But how do other organisations emulate such attitudes? Lissack and Roos offer "10 guiding principles to provide you with the sense of coherence you need, as well as five practical steps for putting the principles into action". Some of the principles ap-

pear a little vague. But many of the others provide powerful insights. This is particularly so of the first - use simple guiding principles, on the hasis that "life is complex enough without adding complication to it". Moreover, Lissack and Roos go completely against management consultants' practice by saying that executives should use "landscape

business environment and the processes taking place The five steps are commendably straightforward, if a little repetitive - identify yourself and your goals, use the right language, create the right context, turn people loose and then get out of the way, using communication that works.

So who measures up to this new reality? Hi-tech companies, such as Intel and America On Line, are prominent. But the authors also point to Virgin, and the credit card agency Visa International. Virgin is well known for its ability to develop operations in everything from transatlantic air transport to cola. Less familiar is how Visa raised itself from the mess that was the infant credit card business through, say Lissack and Roos, developing "coherence

in action and viewpoint". Will other financial services organisations follow suit? ROGER TRAPP

# MY FAVOURITE RESTAURANT

# Top of the trattorias

MARGARET BARBOUR, chairman of South Shields-based J Barbour & Sons, makers of the eponymous waxed jackets. has to travel to Bologna for a meal at her favourite restaurant, the traditional, family-run Antica Trattoria Da Sandro al Navile.

She was introduced to the trattoria, which is tucked away off one of Bologna's main streets, through the Calori family, owners of Barbour's Italian business partner, W P Lavori, based in the northern Italian city.

"Whatever business we may be discussing in their offices, everything stops at 12.30pm for lunch, and we decamp to Sandro's," says Barbour "All our important decisions and agreements have been reached around the luncheon table at Sandro's."

The trattoria makes its own pasta daily, with the butterfly-shaped tortellini a speciality. Other favourites include foglia morta, thinly



Margaret Barbour: Work in Italy stops for lunch

sliced veal served with fresh rocket, and rabbit cooked in balsamic vinegar. When Barbour notched its centenary in 1994, Sandro's was the venue for celebrations with the Italian partners. They were served wild mushroom risotto in a lattice basket of

Parmesan cheese. never been shown a menu. 39 051 634 3100)

Nor have I seen a menu consulted. The customers either know what they want, or rely upon the advice of Sandro and his team. The food is always accompanied by lively conver-

sation, which inevitably comes back to business." One of her special pleasures when visiting is watch-

ing the preparation of the trattoria's special dessert of vanilla ice-cream flavoured with balsamic vinegar. However, she has had to

learn to control her expressions of gastronomic delight. As she explains: "On an early visit, after commenting on the quality of the Parmesan, I found myself with a chunk that was big enough to put me seriously over the excess baggage limit."

NAOMI MARKS

Antica Trattoria Da Sandro al Navile. Via Del Sosiegno 15, But Margaret says: "I have 40100 Bologna (Telephone 00

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THE INDEPENDENT

# John Clifford

Chef E. 2001/A Allied Inchiga THERE ARE two banks when price is the state to any productive - The Bark of Scotland and Light for the reason ! have greaten and admiration for both k. Banz of Scottand's case Strike Patuling of the disky lege of the state little or no press in England in the early 1980s ha cension developing aluma citating is a electronic and para ships - which have allowed; read: 1252 Tumbers of custom will some the need for branche Provide and the state of the st duction is a define our industry go to Sir Brian Pitman whole

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Wednesday 14 April 1999 ◆

# INVESTMENT

# Be ready now the CATs are out of the bag

ANY REGULAR reader of this col- within the UK growth and income to turn their funds virtually into umn, temporarily vacated by Jonathan Davis this week, will have noticed, hopefully, his emphasis on a key fund management issue: delivering good value for investors money

By this term, he means not simply an emphasis on outstanding fund performance (any manager with a sense of pride in his or her work will strive to achieve this), but on that performance relative to the charges levied on the fund itself.

For Jonathan, the best "value" funds in recent years have tended to be trackers, which replicate in some form the performance of one of a range of share indices, be they in the UK or worldwide.

In recent years, the record of UK-linked trackers when compared with their more actively managed rivals speaks for itself. In the past three years. Gartmore's UK Index fund, an All-Share tracker, delivered growth of 67.2 per cent. This performance places it in 23rd place sector, which consists of 130 funds. Virgin Direct's tracker achieved near identical performance: £6,000 invested in April 1996 would now be worth £10,035.

Performance, however, is not the only criteria by which we can assess whether a fund delivers value. Closely linked to it is the cost of investing in the fund itself. Quite clearly, a unit trust with a bid/offer spread (the difference between buying and selling a fund) of 5 or even 6 per cent, plus annual management charges of 1.5 per cent, will have to deliver considerably better performance year after year than a fund that has no initial charges and levies only a 0.5 per cent

management fee cach year. The evidence is that few activefund managers succeed in delivering the kind of outperformance to justify the higher charges they levy: Indeed, some funds, facing a sharp rise in the value of Footsie company shares, have been forced

"closet trackers".

According to a recent survey by Money Marketing, a specialist magazine aimed at financial advisers, some managers are buying shares in leading Footsic companies almost in the same proportion as trackers themselves.

For instance, the top 10 Footsie stocks at the beginning of March were BP Amoco, Glaxo Wellcome, British Telecom, Lloyds TSB, HSBC Holdings, SmithKline Beecham, Vodafone, Shell, Barclays and Diageo.

Taking three funds as an example - Fidelity's UK Growth, Hill Samuel British Unit Trust. and Henderson UK Capital Growth funds - all held shares in between seven and 10 of these top 10 Footsic companies, in roughly the same proportions as their weighting in the index.

The position on charges has become even more complicated by the Treasury's attempts to ensure

**NIC CICUTTI** 

**CATmarks offer the** potential for investors to tell at a glance whether the contracts

they are signing offer fair charges on their money

that investors in the new Individual Savings Account (ISA), the tax-free wrapper that replaced PEPs last week, should operate some form of benchmark system.

CATmarks (the initials stand for low Charges, easy Access and fair Terms) are its preferred solution. Essentially, any company that aims to claim a CATmark for its investment fund must charge no more than 1 per cent in annual management fees, while the minimum investment should be no more than £50 a month or £500 for

Fund management companies have led a powerful rearguard action against CATmarks. They argue that more naive savers will be led to believe that the use of a CAT standard means the fund itself carries some sort of government seal of approval.

Second, and linked to the above, it is argued that by demanding such a low initial charge (instead of a more typical 5 per cent feet, a

CATmark bars independent financial advisers (IFAs) from offering proper advice to savers.

This is a powerful argument. which the Government has tried to counter by suggesting that IFAs should be prepared to operate on a fee-paid basis when giving advice on equity-linked ISAs. But clearly, many clients, used to the notion that their IFA is somehow magically able to recommend products without them ever having to pay hard cash for his advice, are likely to balk at paying £200 or more for the privilege.

Even so, the fund management industry's strictures on the need for proper advice would have had more validity were it not for the sight of investors queuing over the Easter bank holiday, all aiming to beat the 5 April deadline for last-minute PEPs. As many interviews revealed at the time, many had no idea what they were doing or of the tax-effectiveness of PEPs relative to their financial needs.

Bureaucratic they may be, and set at slightly too low a level for fund managers' comfort. Even so. CATmarks still offer the potential for investors to tell whether the contracts they are entering into offer fair charges on their money.

Barely a handful of ISA providers have chosen to offer CAT marked funds. Those that have agreed met this week to devise a common logo.

It is too soon to say whether this will raise the profile of CATmarked funds and prompt other providers to offer similar ones. Perhaps the only way this will happen will be if it becomes clear that investors are seeking out funds with low entry

costs and decent performance. Even if CATmarks are not the magic answer to investors' prayers at least they raise questions about what we pay fund managers to look after our money - and what we get back in return. In the case of many pooled fund investments, the answer is: not much.

# Should you invest in... the retail sector?

AFTER A period of great uncertainty, investors are considering the retail sector. "Investors have seen the trend to lower interest rates and they are looking for a consumer recovery as a result," says Ashley Willing of Gartmore Fund Managers.

"People are buying into consumer stocks in the hope of this recovery and in the belief that we are not going into recession."

This will come not a moment too soon for the beleaguered retail sector. Patrick Evershed, a fund manger at Rathbone Brothers, says: Retailers have been under pretty severe pressure recently. The prime example is Marks & Spencer If be certain it has been even worse for lots of other companies."

The size and reputation of M&S has meant that its difficulties have cast a shadow over the whole sector. "The sector is a headache for us," says Geoff Milier, head of research at Brewin Dolphin Securities.

"You have one very large company, Marks & Spencer, at the head of the sector, which we would not touch with a bargepole. We have a neutral recommendation for the sector, which means we like five of its major stocks but don't like the

The problem with M&S is that it has been very slow to confront its own difficulties. "M&S is a very interesting example of a company that has got it strategically wrong, he adds. "Unlike Next, which held its hands up, admitted its mistakes and put them right, M&S blamed everything apart from themselves. Now they have finally admitted they have got it wrong, it will take a very long time to sort things out."

Another problem facing the retailers has been the reluctance of consumers to come out and spend in many areas.

"It is baffling where consumers' money has gone," Evershed adds. "Interest rates are falling and the economic background is healthy, but consumers don't seem to be spending. There is a surprising disparity between the buoyancy of the housing market and retail sales."

That said, there are signs of considerable confidence behind the bigger players in the sector, M&S excluded. "There are five retailers which are very good companies but,

BY KEIRON ROOT

because they sit just behind the sector leader, they can be tarred with same brush," says Geoff Miller.

"Kingfisher is a good play on Eu-rope, as well as the UK, with its French expansion, and European consumer confidence is still sky high. Boots has got over its problems of a pricy acquisition in the Eighties, sorted itself out and is producing very strong results. GUS is business these days as a retailer. Dixons is a play on the Internet and the expanding electronic goods mar-M&S has had a rough time, you can ket. Next is the best of the clothing retailers."

> Ashley Willing agrees that it is the major players that warrant the most interest, "It is the Dixons and the Kingfishers, companies that have strong franchises within their sectors, that we are most interested in," he says. "What we would look to avoid are those retailers who need inflation to get their pricing through and steer clear of franchises that are undifferentiated from their peers."

He cites Kingfisher and Next as examples of this type of strong franchise. "Kingfisher has B&Q and its European business is very strong, whilst Next has maintained its franchise after a period of difficulties." he says. "But more generally, clothing is one of those areas where we are wary of becoming involved as it is very difficult to differentiate

Patrick Evershed adds: "There have been some much bigger disparities within the sector over recent months. Some companies have been doing pretty well and others have been suffering very severely.

"The food retailers have been doing all right, with Tesco doing particularly well and increasing market share, but they all may be hit by a monopolies investigation."

One area that has suffered has been consumer durables in general and furniture retailers in particular. "Furniture has gone through an especially bad period," Evershed points out. "This is particularly baffling because the housing market has been booming and when the housing market is strong furniture usually does well."



performance of furniture retailers could be due to a previously unforeseen boom.

"One explanation could be that two years ago, with the demutualisations, furniture sales boomed. So it is perhaps not that 1998 was a very had year but that 1997 was exceptionally good. But the trend is continuing and the latest figures from John Lewis show sales are still sig-

nificantly down." He highlights the parallel experience of the carpet retailers to show the variety of performance within the sector. "Carpetright. Phil Harris' company, has been doing particularly well, but Allied Carpets has been doing very badly," he says. "Management skills seem to have been ever more important over the last year than in the

Some types of retailer have undoubtedly done better than others. Patrick Evershed says: "Another area that has been doing well is DIY. as that does go up in line with He suggests the recent under- house prices, and anything to do with

computer services and the Internet M&S may even lose its top spot." The has been strong. One example of a solid performer is Era Group, which owns Beatties, the games and hobbies chain, where one-third of its business is in computer games.

"Electronic Boutique has also been doing well for similar reasons. Dixons has also come up very strongly, partly because of its Internet service, coupled with the arrival of digital TV.

"Initially, digital TV is seen as a negative because it means people will stop buying existing equipment. but over the next two years, those selling digital TV will do very well." This argument also leads us back

to Kingfisher, with Patrick Evershed pointing out that the company's ownership of Comet gives it a stake in the digital revolution. Geoff Miller also notes that Kingfisher may well benefit from M&S' continued troubles. "The weighting

of M&S has come down quite con-

siderably," he says, "It is now much

closer to Kingfisher and if it con-

stellar volumes. Consumers will be very price aware and very value aware and will go for the retailers with strong franchises or a dominant market position. "That is why we would look at the

grounds for optimism.

generally positive economic back-

ground also gives considerable

low-inflation, low-growth environ-

ment, so sales will improve, al-

though we are not going to see

majors, where we see better growth

and better prospects and stay away

Ashley Willing says: "We are in a

from the second-line retailers." Others take a broader view. The fact that so many retail shares have fallen from grace means that the sector does offer considerable recovery potential. Geoff Miller says: "We are quite keen on consumer cyclicals, and the recent change in sector classifications has helped this by making investors realise there are some retailers which respond to tinues to underperform the sector.

there is scope for them to come down further. This will continue to boost consumer confidence and lead to a recovery in these cyclical stocks."

Even the furniture and carpet retailers might benefit. "The really geared plays on consumer cyclicals are the furniture and carpet retailers," he says. "They have got slaughtered but now offer some interesting opportunities if you really believe that there is going to be a pick-up in consumer confidence."

Patrick Evershed says: "There are some very good areas, and so many share prices have fallen so sharply, especially the small companies, that there is considerable scope for improvement. As an example, we have a holding in John David Sports, which sells training shoes. Their shares were at £3.50 in mid-1997 but fell to a low of 48p pretty quickly. They are now just below 130p so they have gone up two and a half times from their low, but this cyclical factors. Interest rates was partly because they had fallen are coming down and we believe too far in the first place."

# SHAREWATCH

Scottish & Southern Energy is fundamentally undervalued, argues Salom Smith Barney, which notes the shares (563p) are trading at about a 20 per cent discount to their sum-of-the-parts valuation. SSE is graded as a low-risk buy, with a price target of 693p. Investec Henderson Crosthwaite has moved Flextech (775p) back to a buy from hold after the full-year results and confirmation of additional investment in new digital interactive services Henderson has raised its target price from 705p to 850p.

SELL Stanley Leisure (276p) says Charterhouse, pointing out that prospects in both the provincial casino market and the London high-roller market remain bleak. On a prospective p/e multiple of 17.4 and a p/e premium of 19 per cent to the sector, the shares still look too high, adds

# NO PAIN, NO GAIN: OUR MAN'S PORTFOLIO

# Safeway may be one way to shop for that blue chip bargain

BLUE CHIPS cannot be expected to ficult not to say impossible, has at worst a gentle drift to around make relentless headway. They are, since been able to reap rich rewards 5,700, as about the most bearish disof course, mauled during a bear mar- as shares have hit new highs. ket. And even the best may occasionally fall on hard times, sending their shares skidding into a seemingly bottomless pit, while the rest

of the market is heading north. There is no doubt that past market setbacks have presented ideal buying opportunities. The stupefying 1987 meltdown, which prompted investors around the world into blind and panicky selling, is now regarded as little more than a blip. Anyone who did manage to buy at the depressed 1987 prices, and I know dealing then was extremely dif-

A splendid buying opportunity occurred only months ago. In October, price bargains should seek a blue worries about Asia and Russia and the perceived impact of the near failure of the highly sophisticated Long Term Capital Management hedge fund, sent Footsie sliding to 4,698.9. In the chill autumn climate, for example, Dixons, now 1,473p, was below 500p, and P&O, sailing at

967p, could be found at 489p. Market crashes are often unexpected. Few observers expect one this year. The more realistic pes-

play we can expect.

So investors nunting for the cutchip that has fallen out of layour yet should have the strength to recover its winning ways. Safeway could fit the bill. The supermarket chain has had an appalling run, falling from 426.5p to 248p in a few years as profits weakened and the market has questioned its strategy.

Profits are due next month: they will be disappointing. Around £348m (against £340.2m) is the analytical consensus. A few years ago Safeway nudged £430m. The group's fall from



**PAIN** 

grace has been brutal but there is and Tesco and the recovery by the has already held talks with Asda;

It was once, of course, the preserve of the legendary Jimmy Gulliver. In his day it aspired to be a leading drinks group as well as a supermarket force. But once it lost the infamous battle with Guinness for control of the staid old Scotch whisky and gin group, The Distillers Co. the Gulliver star waned and the drinks side, his special love, was unceremoniously ditched.

At first the concentration on supermarkets looked a shrewd move. But Safeway has been squeezed by

evidence the chain is clawing its way once alling Asda. Still if next month's they were abandoned because of Safeway's shares are clearly unthen 10 times earnings and offer 2 pretty safe 5.8 per cent dividend yield; not bad in these low interest rate days. A leading analyst, Paul Smiddy at Credit Lyonnais, has called the share price "ludicrous".

The year, which ended last month, may represent the nadir of Safeway's fortunes. But even if there is further disappointment the group, which already looks vulnerable to a predator, could find its inthe growing power of J Sainsbury dependence under threat. Safeway making a pitch for the chain.

results are in line with expectations perceived Westminster opposition. But other possible buyers hover. Waldervalued. They are selling at less Mart, the big US retail group, has made no secret of its desire to expand into Europe and a struggling Safeway could well prove to be the vehicle it selects.

Then there is Royal Ahoid. The Dutch supermarket chain is in an acquisitive mood. Rumours swirled last month it had set its sights on Safeway as the aisle for its British expansion. It will, no doubt, wait until Safeway has rolled out its figures before deciding whether it is worth

AN INDIVIDUAL Savings Account boasting a government CAT standard is supposed to be "straight forward, clear and fair and offer decent value". But despite the heavy publicity given to the voluntary standards, and the Government's stated desire to see companies competing to beat them and bring down the cost of saving, few ISA companies will be

using them. Some have products that would qualify or be able to qualify with a little tweaking but are in effect boycotting the scheme. Firms not offering CATmarked ISAs say that, far from improving clarity in the crowded savings market - which is another government aim - CATmarks will confuse people into thinking they are a performance guarantee.

They also complain that the tough criteria the standards lay down means they can be used only on a very narrow range of products. To qualify for a CATmark an ISA has to match or better criteria laid down by the Government on charges, access to funds and terms it offers.

The Treasury argues the standards are "challenging but sustainable". CAT standard stocks and shares ISAs can charge no more than 1 per cent per year of the amount of money invested, and have a minimum investment of no more than £500 for a lump sum or £50 per month.

Cash ISAs can levy no charges other than for replacements such as lost cards, allow withdrawals in no less than seven days and have a minimum investment of no more than £10. They must pay interest of no less than two percentage points below Bank of England base rates and raise rates within a month of the Bank doing so.

Abbey National is launching a CAT standard ISA paying 6 per cent on deposits from £1, rising to 6.5 per cent on £3,000. But the bank says that while it is offering an insurance-linked ISA, this will not be CATmarked.

CAT standard insurance ISAs as some kind of guarantee. can charge no more than 3 per cent a year, have minimum premiums of no more than £250 for a lump sum or £25 a month, and have surrender values after three years that must at least return the value of what has been paid in.

The Research Department, a financial research firm, has analysed over 128 "mini" ISAs, which offer just one of the three components that can make up an ISA, and 106 "maxi" offerings, which must provide the stocks and shares element and can

and shares mini ISAs offered a CAT direct to the public rather than

ance mini ISAs offered CAT standards, and just 39 of 83 cash mini ISAs, offered CAT standard options. As for Maxi ISAs, just 13 of 106 with the compulsory stocks and shares element boast a CAT standard, while none of six with a life in-

surance element, and only 15 of 43 with a cash element, have them. Of those CATmarked stocks and shares ISAs on the market, nearly all will be so-called index trackers. which aim to "track" the perfor-

mance of a recognised stock market

index, such as the FTSE 100. Norwich Union and Standard Life, however, will be offering "actively managed" funds with CATmarks, which aim to beat either a stock market index or an industry

performance benchmark. But many firms wanting to offer stocks and shares CAT marked products have been forced to cut charges.

Virgin Direct had to drop the £2 fee for monthly contributions into its index-tracking PEP from its index tracking ISA replacement. Legal & General also ditched monthly fees on three CATmark qualifying funds. Norwich Union had to remove initial charges from its three qualifying actively managed funds, and Standard Life had to cut the annual management fee on its actively managed CAT mark fund from 1.5 to 1 per

Gordon Maw. Virgin Direct's marketing manager, says the company believes CATmarked ISAs will attract enough savers to make them pay. He says: "We have got through the difficult period and now it looks like CATmarks are established as an important part of the ISA."

Gartmore is one company that could easily offer a stocks and shares ISA with a CATmark but refuses to do so. A spokeswoman says: "Although we agree with improving clarity we think customers will see CATmarks

"We think CATmarks are encouraging people to go in without explaining the dangers, they are all right for cash ISAs but not stocks and

Other big-name fund managers such as Jupiter, Perpetual, and Schroders, which do significant business with independent financial advisers, have also decided to snub the CATmark scheme.

But Neil Liversidge, investment adviser at DBS, an independent financial advice network, says: "I add a cash or life insurance or both. think more will come on the market It found just 12 out of 86 stocks as more companies look to sell standard option, none of six insur- through independent advisers."



Abbey National is launching a CAT standard ISA that will pay 6 per cent on deposits from £1, rising to 6.5 per cent on savings of £3,000

#### 'S NO RUSH TO BUY

NOW THAT we are in the era of individual savings accounts (ISAs). we have much more freedom of choice when it comes to equitylinked investments. No longer do the rules restrict us to just the UK and European stock markets if we want to use our full allowance and take maximum advantage of the tax. what they have to offer." benefits as they did with personal

equity plans. Instead, we can put our money anywhere we want and in virtually any sort of fund, apart from veninvestment from capital gains and

If we choose to invest with a fund management group, then for the next five years it can also reclaim

tax that companies pay on the dividends they distribute.

"But don't feel that you have to rush out and buy an ISA," says Stephen Lansdown, of Hargreaves Lansdown. "Many groups have yet to announce their plans, so it may be worthwhile waiting until you see

Use the time to sort out your investment priorities. "Attitude to risk is the most important factor when it comes to making investment decisions, and this applies just ture capital trusts, and shelter the as much with ISAs." advises Jo North of Pretty Financial. "A good independent financial adviser (IFA) can help you with this."

If you decide to use an IFA. he greater degree of choice." or she will look at your overall porthalf the advanced corporation folio. If you don't want to use one. are new to equity investments, vesting elsewhere in the world".

then there are several points to bear

"If you have been investing in PEPs in the past, then make sure that your ISA choice is complementary," says Roddy Kohn of Kohn Cougar. "What you want is a balanced portfolio, not overexposure to any particular markets. Always bear in mind that ISAs, just like PEPs, are intended for long-

term investment."

"Also try to take out your ISA with a group that has a wide range of funds," says Jo North. "Over time, you may want to switch your investments as your priorities change and this will give you a

then Roddy Kohn suggests you could take a look at Norwich Union's CATmarked UK Growth fund or HSBC's FTSE All Share

tracker fund as "the UK is likely to be one of the best growth areas this year. Some commentators are already forecasting that the stock market could rise to 7,200 in a year." Stephen Lansdown also advises

first-time investors to stick with UK or European funds for the time being. He points out "just because there is a wider choice with ISAs, you should not forget first principles. These are that your first investments should be at home where the risks are lower. Four years down the road, when your portfolio has So where should you start. If you grown, then you should consider in-

 $I_{\,\text{need to}}\,find\,out$ 

vestor or in need of income, then all the experts agree on the merits of the M&G corporate bond funds. Managed by Theodora Zemek, both the conventional and the high-yield funds have produced good performance records. Other than M&G, "Aberdeen Fixed Interest, Jupiter Income and Perpetual High Income should always be considered", says Stephen Lansdown.

"More adventurous investors should consider growth funds from groups such as Jupiter, Invesco. M&G, Fidelity, Schroder, Henderson, Gartmore and Save & Prosper" says Jo North. "I the best PEP managers are likely to be the best ISA

TONY LYONS

ecounts and each mini ISA can be held with a different ISA mana

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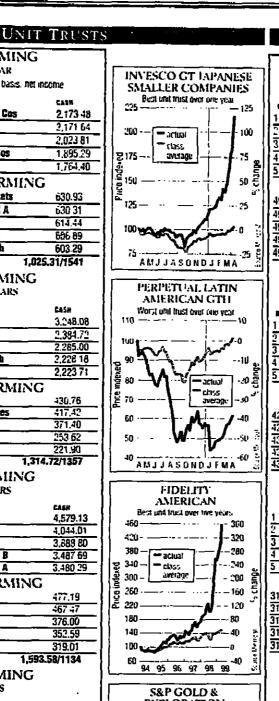
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AberdeenProl Technology 4,044,01 GA North American Growth 3,883,80 Edinburgh North American Cl B 3,487 69 Ediaburgh North American Cl A 3.480 29 WORST PERFORMING M&G Gold S&P Korea 467 47 Sovett US Bear 376.00 Old Metual Thailand 352.59 134 S&P Gold & Exploration 319.01 BEST PERFORMING OVER 10 YEARS AberdeenProl Technology 11,097.50 Fidelity American 9,471.50 **GA North American Growth** 9,264.13 Henderson Global Technology 7,947.01 Edinburgh North American CI B 7.760 86 WORST PERFORMING S&P Gold & Exploration HSBC Japan Index 612.22 580.71 INVESCO Japanese 6th 502.35 M&G Japan 420.6D Barelays Japan 2,918.95/756 Source: Standard & Poors/Micropal



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |              | <del></del>                                                   |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |              | INVESTME                                                      | NT           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |              | BEST PERFORMING                                               |              |
| INVESCO CT JAPANESE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1            | OVER ONL YEAR                                                 |              |
| SMALLER COMPANIES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1            | initial £1,000 tump sum, mid-price to mid-pri                 | ACC.         |
| Bust unit frust over one year 225                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | BAPK         | IMPĒSIMENT IRUSI                                              | ÇASI         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1            | INVESCO Japan Discovery Wts                                   | 4.45         |
| 200 100                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 2 -          | Ballie Gifford Shin Hippon Wt<br>Fidelity Japanese Values Wts | 3,62<br>2,77 |
| 2175 Etass<br>average 75                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1 4          | Schroder Korea Fund                                           | 2,24         |
| العتا السنست                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 5            | INVESCO Japan Discovery                                       | 2,12         |
| 50 8                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |              | WORST PERFORMING                                              |              |
| د الأوراق الأ | 495          | First Russian Frontiers                                       | 232          |
| <i>I</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 496          | Tea Plantations Wts                                           | 140          |
| 100                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 497          | First Russian Frontiers Wis                                   | 117          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 498          | City of Oxford Wts  Central European Gth Wts                  | 97 :         |
| AMJJASONDJEMA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 499          |                                                               | 9/499        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | {            | BEST PERFORMING                                               | .u, -JJ      |
| PERPETUAL LATIN AMERICAN GTH                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | ł            | OVER THREE YEARS                                              |              |
| Worst offil trust over one year                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | RANK         | UNIT TRUST/GEIC                                               | CASS         |
| 110 10                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1            | Fleming Inc & Gth-Cap (2000)W                                 | 21.6         |
| 100 gr                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2 3          | Jupiter Extra Inc Wts                                         | 9,62         |
| . NI                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |              | Jove - Cap (2004)                                             | 5.95         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 5            | Dartmoor Wts<br>Framlington Dual-Cap (1999)                   | 5,89         |
| 80 ————————————————————————————————————                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |              |                                                               | .85/43       |
| 2 70 Takenge                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | l            | WORST PERFORMING                                              | -            |
| 60                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 428          | Aberdeen New Dawn B Wts                                       | 86 9         |
| 50 - 10 - 50                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 429          | Edinburgh Java Wts                                            | 83.3         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 430          | Pacific Assets Wts Aberdeen New Dawn C Wts                    | 73 D         |
| 40                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 432          | Central European 6th Wts                                      | 963          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |              | Mean/Count 1,387                                              | .96/43       |
| FIDELITY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | (            | BEST PERFORMING                                               |              |
| AMERICAN Best und Inux over two years                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | ١.           | OVER FIVE VEARS Frankington Qual-Cap (1999)                   | 7,23         |
| 460                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <del> </del> | Jove - Cap (2004)                                             | 4.79         |
| 420                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3            | For & Col Enterprise                                          | 4.67         |
| 380 — actual — -280                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1            | Fleming Inc & Gth-Cap (2000)W                                 | 3.82         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 5            | Jos Holdings - Cap (2003)                                     | 3,40         |
| s = 1 =1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1,,,         | WORST PERFORMING                                              |              |
| 220                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 312<br>313   | For & Col Emerging Mkts Wis  City of Oxford Wis               | 107<br>83 3  |
| 180                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 314          | Aberdeen New Daws 8 Wts                                       | 74.0         |
| 140                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 315          | Edioburgh Java Wits                                           | 39 4         |
| 100 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 316          | Central European 6th Wis                                      | 6.50         |
| 60                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |              | Mean/Count 1,457.                                             | 31/31        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1            | BEST PERFORMING OVER 10 YEARS                                 |              |
| S&P GOLD & EXPLORATION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | RAFE         | UNIT TREST/DEIC                                               |              |
| Worst und trust over five years                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | RAIR         | For & Cot Enterprise                                          | 10,6         |
| 175 75                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2            | Framington Dual-Cap (1999)                                    | 9,09         |
| 150 50                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 3            | Candover                                                      | 6.45         |

Edinburgh US Tracker

INVESCO Enterprise

112

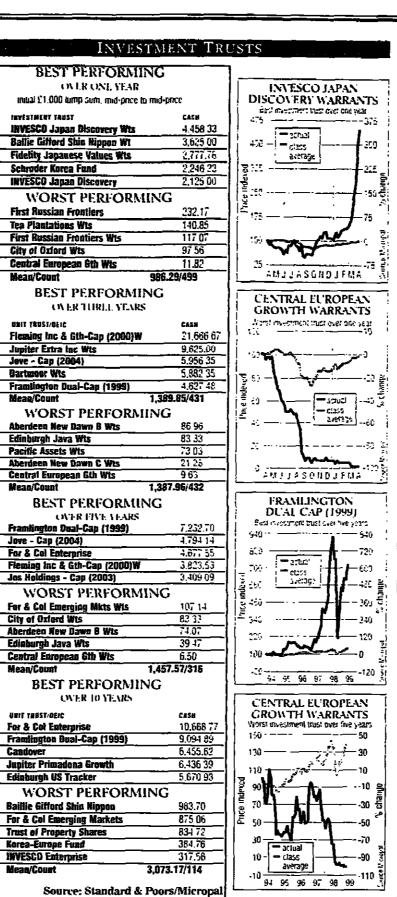
113

114

- actual

class average

94 95 96 97 98 99



|                                              |                                         |                           | T/HIGH INCOME MING UNIT TRUSTS                                                              |                  |     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----|
|                                              |                                         |                           | ump sum, offer to bid basis                                                                 |                  |     |
| rays                                         |                                         | ONE YEAR<br>REAS          | FIVE YEARS                                                                                  | CASM             | RAI |
| <u>:</u>                                     | Fidelity Inst Fds UK Bood               | 1,143,86                  | AberdeenProl Sterling Boad                                                                  | 1.678 77         |     |
| <u>2</u> _                                   | Hill Samuel Bond Index                  | 1,143.27                  | Dresdaer RCM Preference                                                                     | 1,660.73         |     |
| 3                                            | Barclays High Income                    | 1,127.32                  | Headerson Preference & Bond                                                                 | 1,639.61         |     |
| 4                                            | Legal & Gea Fixed Interes               | t 1,113,90                | CGU PPT Monthly Income Plus                                                                 | 1.637 73         |     |
| 5                                            | Fidelity MoneyBuilder Inc               | 1,111.64                  | M&G Corporate Bond                                                                          | 1.636.35         |     |
|                                              |                                         |                           | RMING UNIT TRUSTS                                                                           |                  |     |
| 72                                           | Framington Convertible                  | 989 94                    | Edinburgh UK Fixed 1st Cl A                                                                 | 1.418.99         |     |
| 74                                           | Edipburgh UK Fixed Int Cl               |                           | Lleyds TSB Premier Income                                                                   | 1.391.46         |     |
| 75                                           | Edinburgh UK Fixed Int CI               |                           | Govett Corporate Boad                                                                       | 1,385.30         |     |
| 76                                           | Singer & Fried Pref Inc                 | 975 <u>52</u>             | INVESCO GIR & Fixed Interest                                                                | 1,367 61         | - 1 |
| <u>77                                   </u> | Sovereign Controlled Perf<br>Mean/Count | 926.83                    | Sovereign Controlled Perfrance                                                              | 1,294 94         |     |
|                                              |                                         | al 21000 lump<br>ONE YEAR | G INVESTMENT TRUS  IS SUM. MICHORICE OF MICHORICE  FIVE YEARS  WHEN WEDNIE WYESTMENT TRUSTS |                  |     |
| 1                                            | M&G High Income (GRD L                  |                           |                                                                                             | eash<br>2.413.41 | Aa  |
| 2                                            | Caimgora BS Units                       | 1,161.87                  | Glasgow Income                                                                              | 1,924.06         | _   |
| 3                                            | Aberdeen High Income                    | 1,136.27                  | Gartmore Scotland Pkge Unit                                                                 | 1 399.28         | _   |
| <u> </u>                                     | Cairogorm Demutualisatio                | n1,100 61                 | Shires Income                                                                               | 1,890.00         | _   |
| <del></del>                                  | City Merchants High Yield               |                           | M&G Income Geared Upit                                                                      | 1.878.91         | _   |
|                                              |                                         |                           | NG INVESTMENT TRU                                                                           | JSTS             |     |
| 14                                           |                                         |                           | City Merchants High Yield                                                                   | 1.837.07         |     |
| <u>:=</u> _                                  | M&G Income Geared Unit                  |                           | Henderson High Income                                                                       | 1,650.92         |     |
| <u>:8</u>                                    | Gartmore Scotland Pkge 1                |                           | M&G Recovery Geared Unit                                                                    | 1,510.05         |     |
| 17                                           | OLIM Convertible Units                  | 900 41                    | Govett High Income                                                                          | 1,464 23         |     |
| 18                                           | M&G Recovery Geared Un                  |                           | Aberdeen Convertible Income                                                                 | 1.171.91         |     |
|                                              | Mean/Coust 1,0                          | 341.94/18                 | Mean/Count                                                                                  | 1,773.99/10      |     |
|                                              |                                         |                           | Source: Standard & Po                                                                       |                  |     |

| Philippe Jaroes &       | MINIMUM IPI                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | hiter (manes)                          | YIELD (gross, %)                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                        | 6.19                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                        | 6.35                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                        | 6.48                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                        | 6.14                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                        | 6.10                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 12%                     | 1,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 216                                    | 5.96                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| COUPON (gross, %)       | (2) MOMININ                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | PRIČE (ponce)                          | fiELO (grass, %)                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 11 <sup>3</sup> 4       | 50,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 186                                    | 6.32                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 4.1.                    | 10,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 161                                    | 7.30                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                         | 50.000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1331/2                                 | 6.55                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                        | 6.55<br>6.92                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 8:4                     | 50.000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1331/2                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 8 <sup>2</sup> :4<br>12 | 50.000<br>50,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 133\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\ | 6.92                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                         | 9/20 9/20 11 <sup>2</sup> /20 13 13 12/20 13 <sup>3</sup> /20 10 <sup>3</sup> /20 10 <sup>2</sup> /20 12 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 10 <sup>5</sup> /20 | SOUPON (gross, %)                      | 9% 1,000 148  1113 10,000 188  13 10,000 210  13 1,000 201  1214 1,000 191  133% 1,000 2061;  1093 1,000 175  125% 1,000 207  127% 1,000 207  127% 1,000 216  CDUPON (gross, %) MYNHBM (E) PRICE (ponce) |

|                                                 | Br                                        | ST SAVING                 | GS RAT                  | E.S.               |                |                | ·          |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
|                                                 |                                           |                           |                         |                    | mc .           |                |            |
|                                                 | TELEPHONE                                 | ACCESS BR                 | ANCH A                  | DEPASIT            |                |                | INTEREST   |
| Taras                                           | ,,,,,,                                    |                           | OR TERM                 |                    | GROSS<br>4 EAR | 4.50%          | PAID       |
| resco<br>Mochaich                               | 0845 7104010<br>0800 222200               | Tesco Savings  Card Saver | Instant                 | £1 · ·             | 4.50%          | 4.75%          | Yly<br>Ylv |
| ferkshire BS                                    | 0845 6006061                              | Access Saver              | Instant                 | £100               | 4.75%          | 4.75%          | Yly        |
| leacher's BS                                    | 01202 843550                              | Bellion                   | Instant                 | 2500               | 4.30%          | 4.35%          | 1/2Yly     |
| 200                                             | 517 Amel 110                              |                           |                         | NO.                | ·^~            | `r             |            |
|                                                 |                                           | HONE ACC                  |                         |                    |                |                | v4.        |
| igg<br>Firela Direct                            | 0845 6000292<br>0845 6101020              | Savings<br>Deposit        | Post/Phone              | <u>ដ</u>           | 6.00%<br>5.75% | 6.00%<br>5.75% | Yly        |
| ogm <i>o</i> mett<br>Scottish Widows Bank       | 0845 8450829                              | Instant Transfer          | Telephone<br>Post/Phone | £100               | 5.80%          | 5.80%          | Ylv        |
| orthern Rock                                    | 0845 6006767                              | BaseRate Tracke           |                         | £5,000             | 6.00%          | 6.00%          | Yly        |
|                                                 |                                           |                           |                         |                    |                |                |            |
|                                                 | NOTICE                                    | ACCOUNT                   | is and i                | SONDS              | ;              |                |            |
| torkshire BS                                    | 0845 6006061                              |                           | 30 Day                  | 2100               | 5.80%          | 5.80%          | Yly        |
| Scarborough BS                                  | 01723 500616                              | 40 Day Access             | 40 Day                  | £1,000<br>£100     | 5.95%<br>5.90% | 5.95%<br>5.90% | Yly        |
| Scottish Widows Bank<br>Kanchester BS           | 0845 8450829<br>0161 8338898              | 60 Day Notice<br>Prison   | 60 Day (B)<br>120 Day   | £10,000            | 6.05%          | 6.05%          | Ylv        |
| NANCHESIEL DS                                   | 0101 0330030                              | FIRM                      | 120 Day                 | 210,000            | מי כפיים       | 0.00 0         |            |
|                                                 | C                                         | HEQUE AC                  | COUNTS                  | 3                  |                |                |            |
| an Bank                                         | 01438 744505                              | HICA                      | None                    | 21,000             | 4.25%          | 4.25%          | Yly        |
| MC Bank                                         | 0181 4472040                              | HICA                      | Instant                 | £5,000             | 5.25%          | 5.35%          | Cily       |
| eeds & Helbeck BS                               | 0800 0728738                              | Albion Cheque             | Instant                 | £5,000             | 5.00%          | 5.00%          | Yly        |
| westec Bank (UK)                                | 0171 5974131                              | HICA 5000                 | None                    | £5,000             | 4.75%          | 4.85%          | Mly        |
|                                                 | 10                                        | IXED RATE                 | RONDS                   |                    |                |                |            |
| latilax                                         | 01422 333333                              |                           | 6 Month                 | 52,000             | 5.75%F         | 5.83%          | Yly        |
| lertkern Rock                                   | 0845 6004466                              | Fixed Rate Boad           | 1.5.00                  | £5,000             | 6.05%F         | 6.05%          | Ylv        |
| Mocheich                                        | 0800 222200                               | Fixed Rate Boad           | 3 Year                  | 25,000             | 5.25%F         | 5.25%          | Yly        |
| rizzeli Bank                                    | 0800373191                                | Fixed Rates               | 4 Year                  | £2,500             | 5.25%F         | 5.32%          | Yly        |
|                                                 |                                           | MINI CAS                  | H ISAS                  |                    |                |                | _          |
| tationwide BS                                   | 0500 302010                               | CAT Standard              | Instant                 | £1                 | 6.50%          | 6.50%          | Yly        |
| ferkshire BS                                    | 0845 6006061                              | CAT Standard              | 7 Day                   | 210                | 6.25%          | 6.25%          | Yly        |
| Unbey National                                  | 0800 100801                               | CAT Standard              | None                    | £3,000<br>£3,000   | 6.50%<br>6.75% | 6.75%          | Yly<br>Ylv |
| ionnick & P'here BS                             | 0800 883322                               | Non CAT Standard          | Instant                 | 23,000             | 0./ 370        | 0.73%          | 1179       |
|                                                 |                                           | TESSAS ON                 | LY ISAS                 |                    |                |                |            |
| <b>V</b> ootwick                                | 0800 222200                               | CAT Standard              | instant                 | ជា                 | 6.00%          | 6.00%          | Yly        |
| libber Matienal                                 | 0800 100801                               | CAT Standard              | Instant                 | £1,000             | 6.25%          | 6.25%          | Yly        |
| lalifax                                         | 01422 333333                              | CAT Standard              | 7 Day                   | 23,000             | 6.50%          | 6.50%          | Yly        |
| Coventry BS                                     | 0845 7665522                              | Non CAT Standard          | Instant                 | £500               | 6.50%          | 6.50%          | Yly        |
| <u></u>                                         | OFFCH                                     | DRE ACCO                  | INITE (C                | מטפפו              |                |                |            |
|                                                 |                                           | <b>-</b>                  |                         |                    | 5 50%          | 5 SM           | Yhy        |
| Portman Changel Island<br>Fish Nationwide (IOM) | D1624 673373                              | Instant 6                 | Mone                    | £5,000<br>£25,000  | 5.50%<br>6.00% | 6.00%          | Yly        |
| rish naubhinios (10m)<br>Hortbern Rock Guernsey |                                           | Offshore 90               | 90 Day                  | £25,000            | 6.25%          | 6.25%          | Yly        |
| risk Hadioowide (1004)                          | 01624 673373                              |                           |                         | £50,000            | 6.65%          | 6.65%          | Yly        |
|                                                 |                                           |                           |                         |                    |                |                |            |
|                                                 | GUARANT                                   | EED INCO                  |                         |                    |                |                |            |
| E Financial Assurance                           | 0181 3803388                              |                           | 1 Year                  | \$10,000           |                |                | Yly        |
| iE Financiai Assurance                          | 0181 3803388                              |                           | 2 Year                  | 210,000            | 4.10%FN        |                | Yly        |
| ountrywide Assured                              | 0800 838020                               |                           | 3 Year                  | £10,000            |                |                | Yly        |
| ountrywide Assured                              | 0800 838020                               |                           | 4 Year                  | £10,000            | 4.40%FN        |                | Yly        |
|                                                 | TATION141 4                               | CANTINICO A               |                         | FS (CP)            | <b>Jee1</b>    |                |            |
|                                                 |                                           | SAVINGS A                 |                         |                    |                |                | Υlγ        |
| NVESTMENT ACCOUNTS                              |                                           |                           | 1 Month_                | £20                | 3.65%          |                | Yly        |
|                                                 |                                           |                           |                         | £500<br>£2,500     | 3.80%          |                | Yly        |
| <del>.</del>                                    |                                           |                           |                         | £2,500<br>£5,000   | 4.00%          |                | Yly        |
|                                                 |                                           |                           |                         | £10,000            |                |                | Yly        |
|                                                 |                                           |                           |                         | \$25,000           | 4.45%          |                | Yly        |
|                                                 |                                           |                           | <u> </u>                | £50,000            | 4.95%          |                | Yly        |
|                                                 |                                           |                           | 2 Month                 | £30,000<br>£2,000  | 4.95%          |                | Miy        |
| COME BORDS                                      |                                           |                           | 3 Month                 | £25,000<br>£25,000 | 5.20%          |                | Miy        |
|                                                 |                                           | <del>-</del>              | ladgel                  | £10                | 5.75%          |                | Ylv        |
| ASH ISA                                         |                                           |                           | Instant                 | £100               | 4.65%F         | _              | OM         |
| APITAL BORDS Series P                           |                                           |                           | 5 Year                  | £1,000             | 4.65%F         |                | Yly        |
| IRST OPTION BONDS                               |                                           | <u> </u>                  | 12 Month                | £20,000            | 4.00%F         |                | Yly        |
|                                                 | rn MAASIF BASE                            | Carles O                  | 5 Year                  | £20,000<br>£500    | 4.65%F         |                | Mlv        |
| ENSIONERS GUARANTE                              | EU INCUME BUND                            | эстива У                  | 5 Year                  | £100               | 3.50%F         |                | OM         |
| Oth ISSUE (tax free)                            | de la la la la la la la la la la la la la |                           |                         | £100<br>£100       | 1.65%F         | <del>-</del>   | OM         |
| STH INDEX-LINKED (tax                           | NGE)                                      |                           | 5 Year                  | 2100               | inflation      |                | UIN        |
|                                                 |                                           |                           |                         |                    |                |                |            |

| CHILDREN'S BOND Issue N (tax free)                                                                                                                                                                                           | 5 Year             | £25           | 4.65%F                                 | OM            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------|---------------|
| AER = Annual Equivalent Rate. B=Operated by post and telegon of the Interest paid on maturity. P=Operated by post. T=Oper Please check all rates and terms before investing. All rates to Figures compiled one 12 April 1999 | oted by telephone. | All rates sub | goot to change wi<br>dis) are shown gr | thout notice. |

| CRITIC             | CALTI                  | LNESS COV                    | ER.          |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
|                    | or £50, <b>00</b> 0 si | um assured for 25 years, not | 1 smokers    |
| MEN                |                        | WOMEN                        |              |
| A6E 38             |                        | 4GE 38                       |              |
| Guardian           | 12 00                  | Pegasus                      | 12.07        |
| Permanent          | 12.77                  | Legal & General              | 13 60        |
| Pegasus            | 12 92                  | Scottish Provident           | 13 85        |
| Legal & General    | 13.00                  | Permanent                    | 14 21        |
| AGE 35             |                        | AGE 35                       |              |
| Swiss Life         | <u>16</u> 19           | Legal & General              | <u>17</u> 00 |
| Guardian           | 17 70                  | Scottish Provident           | 17 17        |
| Permanent          | 18 20                  | Swiss Lite                   | 17 78        |
| Legal & General    | 18 50                  | Canada Life                  | 17.80        |
| 46E 40             | _                      | AGE 40                       |              |
| Swiss Life         | 25 72                  | Scottish Provident           | 23 20        |
| Permanent          | 27 16                  | Pegasus                      | 23.52        |
| Legal & General    | 27.40                  | Legal & General              | 24 50        |
| Scottish Provident | 27.59                  | Canada Life                  | 24 80        |
| 16E 45             |                        | 46E 45                       |              |
| Scottish Provident | 40 16                  | Scottish Provident           | 31 35        |
| Swiss Life         | 40.49                  | Zurich Life                  | 31.57        |
| Çanada Life        | 43.40                  | Canada Life                  | 34 40        |
| Guardian           | 44.45                  | BUPA                         | .38 58       |
| AGE 50             |                        | AGE 50                       |              |
| Scottish Provident | 58.98                  | Zarich Life                  | 43 99        |
| Canada Lite        | 61.80                  | Scottish Provident           | 46.35        |
| Swiss Lite         | 62 11                  | Canada Life                  | 46 20        |
| CGU Life           | 75 90                  | CGU Lite                     | 58 25        |
|                    |                        |                              |              |

| COMPULSO          | RY PURC            | HASE AN            | NUITI             |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| £100,000 purcha:  | se, guaranteed fi  | ve years monthly   | ın advance        |
|                   | LEVI               | EŁ                 |                   |
|                   | SINGH              | LIFF               |                   |
|                   | MALE BO            | MALE 65            | MALE 75           |
| Canada Lite       | 7 834              | 8.834              | 10 194            |
| Legal & General   | 7,679              | 8,773              | 10,162            |
| Friends Provident | 7,670              | 8.756              | 10,230            |
|                   | FEMALE 80          | FEMALE 85          | FEMALE 70         |
| Canada Lite       | 7,319              | 8.133              | 9,304             |
| Friends Provident | G,918              | 1,150              | 8.872             |
| Equitable Life    | 6,968              | 7 676              | 8.683             |
| 10181 1.1         | 01 2 3 WH          | WIN'S BEN          | 1117              |
|                   | MALE GO            | MALE 65            | MALE 70           |
| Capada Lite       | FEMALE 55<br>6.820 | FEMALE 60<br>7.430 | 8 279             |
|                   |                    |                    |                   |
| Stalwart          | 6.558              | 7 375<br>7,170     | 8,134             |
| Equitable Life    | 6,605              | 1/1                | 7.954             |
|                   | unre i i           | 18111111           |                   |
| 11                | NDEX-LI            |                    |                   |
|                   | SINGIT             |                    |                   |
| D-1               | MAIE 60            | MALE 85            | MALE 70           |
| Prodential        | 5.769              | 6 759              | 6,067             |
| Sun Life          | 5.554              | 6718               | 8,305             |
| Standard Life     | 5.520              | 6.636              | 8,100             |
|                   | FEMALE FO          | FEMALE 65          | FEMALE 70         |
| Predential        | 5,092              | 5.788              | 6,859             |
| Equitable Lite    | 4.933              | 5673               | 6,697             |
| Canada Life       | 4723               | 5.571              | 6,765             |
| L. ONEL LA        | EE 2.2 WH          | SOW S BEN          |                   |
| DOUGH II          | MALE 60            | MALE 66            | L1 ! !<br>Mate 70 |
|                   | FEMALE SS          | REMATE CO          | FEMALE 65         |
| Prudential        | 4,687              | 5.272              | 6,039             |
| Equitable Life    | 4,554              | 5,149              | 5 955             |
|                   |                    | 1014               | 5.897             |
| Sun Life          | 4 170              | 4,944              | 3 097             |

| (             | CORPO      | ORAT               | E BC           | NDS        |                  |
|---------------|------------|--------------------|----------------|------------|------------------|
| COMPARY       | FUER       | TARGET<br>TIELD, S | RISK<br>RATIRE | F:E CHARGE | ARNUAL<br>FEE. N |
| Perpetual     | Mithly Inc | 8.50               | LM             | 3.15       | 1,5              |
| Aberdeen      | Fræd Int   | 8 20               | îl A           | 4.5        | 1.25             |
| FramEngton    | European   | 003                | L M            | 375        | 1 00             |
| M&6           | High Yield | 9.53               | LM.            | Nil        | 1.25             |
| Schroders     | High Yield | 7 00               | II             | 3 25       | 1.00             |
| Jupiter       | Согр Вола  | 6.60               | M·A            | 5 00       | 100              |
| Legal & Gen   | Corp Bond  | 6.25               | L.             | Nil        | 0.50             |
| Save & Pros   | High lin   | 61b                | 1              | NH         | 075              |
| Fidelity      | Moncyblek  | 617                | Ī              | Nat        | 0.70             |
| Virgin Direct | Inc Trust  | 0.00               | L              | Mil        | 070              |
| MAM           | High Yield | 613                | L-M            | 2 25       | 1.1,10           |
| Goinns Flight | Value Bond | 4.97               | L              | Nil        | ปีย์ว            |

|                                                                                               | TELEPHORE                                                                            | RATE                                                       | PERIOD                                          | MAX                                    | FEE                                        | INCENTIAE                                                                                                                                                                              | REBEMPTION<br>PENALTY                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nationwide BS                                                                                 | 0800 302010                                                                          | 5.39%                                                      | 2 years                                         | 90%                                    | 295                                        | Refund of valuation tee.<br>No MIP                                                                                                                                                     | 1st 2yrs. 4/3 months interest                                                                                                                                                         |
| ambeth Simply                                                                                 | 0645 909192                                                                          | 4.94%                                                      | 1,4.02                                          | 95%                                    | 5295                                       | Holiday Youther min \$100                                                                                                                                                              | To 1.4 02: 5% of advance                                                                                                                                                              |
| Postal                                                                                        |                                                                                      |                                                            |                                                 |                                        |                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Portman B\$                                                                                   | 01202 563502                                                                         |                                                            | 01.5.04                                         | 95%                                    | £300                                       | Advances up to 90% no MIP                                                                                                                                                              | To 1.5.04 4 months interest                                                                                                                                                           |
| NatWest Mitg Serv                                                                             | 0600 400999                                                                          | 5.69%                                                      | 31.5.06                                         | 95%                                    | £295                                       | To 90%, no MIP FT8 fee £14                                                                                                                                                             | 5 To 31 5.06: variable                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                               |                                                                                      |                                                            |                                                 |                                        |                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| FEXE                                                                                          |                                                                                      |                                                            |                                                 |                                        |                                            | REDEMPTION                                                                                                                                                                             | NTIE-IN                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Stattordshire BS                                                                              | 0800 216121                                                                          |                                                            | 01.5.01                                         |                                        | <u>£295</u>                                | <u>-</u>                                                                                                                                                                               | To 1.5 04:5% ofsum repaid                                                                                                                                                             |
| anubeth BS                                                                                    | 0800 325221                                                                          |                                                            | 01.5.02                                         | 95%                                    | 5295                                       | Holidayvoucher -mm £100                                                                                                                                                                | 1st 5 years 5% ofactvance                                                                                                                                                             |
| Scarborough BS                                                                                | 0990 133149                                                                          | 4.30%                                                      | 3 years                                         | 95%                                    | £295                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1st 5 years, 5% of sum repaid                                                                                                                                                         |
| Wan noi Analii ee                                                                             |                                                                                      |                                                            |                                                 |                                        |                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Horthern Rock                                                                                 | 08-3 €050500                                                                         | 5.29%                                                      | 01,7.04                                         | 90%                                    | £395                                       | Free ASU for 6 months                                                                                                                                                                  | 1st 7 yrs 3-5% of sum repaid                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                                                               | 0845 6050500                                                                         | 5.29%                                                      |                                                 |                                        |                                            | & autos upto 30% No MIP                                                                                                                                                                | 1st 7 yrs 3-5% of sum repaid                                                                                                                                                          |
| Horthern Rock                                                                                 | 0645 909190                                                                          | 4.49%                                                      | CAP                                             | PED                                    | RAT]                                       | & advs upto 30% No MIP  ES  Huiday vouches, mar \$100-                                                                                                                                 | 1st. 5 yrs 9% of advance                                                                                                                                                              |
| Horthern Rock  ambeth Simply Bristol & West                                                   | 0645 96919C<br>0800 119955                                                           | 4.49%<br>4.79%                                             | CAP                                             | PED<br>95%<br>95%                      | RAT]                                       | & advs upto 30% No MIP  ES  Huiday vouches, mar \$100-                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Horthern Rock                                                                                 | 0645 96919C<br>0800 119955                                                           | 4.49%<br>4.79%                                             | CAP                                             | PED                                    | RAT]                                       | & advs upto 30% No MIP  ES  Huiday vouches, mar \$100-                                                                                                                                 | 1st. 5 yrs. 5% of advance<br>to 31 3 D4 4.5% of sum repaid                                                                                                                            |
| Horthern Rock  ambeth Simply Bristol & West                                                   | 0645 96919C<br>0800 119955                                                           | 4.49%<br>4.79%<br>4.89%                                    | CAP                                             | PED<br>95%<br>95%                      | RAT]                                       | & advs upto 30% No MIP  ES  Huiday voucher, mar £100- Advances up to 85% No MIP Free ASU for 6 months & advs                                                                           | 1st. 5 yrs. 5% of advance<br>to 31 3 D4 4.5% of sum repaid                                                                                                                            |
| Aorthern Rock  Ambeth Simply Bristol & West Hinkley & Rugby B                                 | 0645 90519C<br>0800 119955<br>\$0800 774499<br>0390 133149                           | 4.49%<br>4.79%<br>4.89%<br>5.65%                           | CAP<br>1.6.01<br>01.6.01<br>3 years             | 95%<br>95%<br>80%                      | RAT] 5295 6295 62505                       | & advs upto 30% No MIP  ES  Huiday voucher, mar £100- Advances up to 85% No MIP Free ASU for 6 months & advs                                                                           | 1st 5 yrs 5% of advance<br>to 31 3 04 4.5% of som repool<br>up 1st 5 yrs, 3% of SR<br>1st 4 yrs 5% of som repool                                                                      |
| Aorthern Rock  Ambeth Simply Bristol & West Hinkley & Rugby B                                 | 0645 90519C<br>0800 119955<br>\$0800 774499<br>0390 133149                           | 4.49%<br>4.79%<br>4.89%<br>5.65%                           | CAP<br>1.6.01<br>01.6.01<br>3 years             | 95%<br>95%<br>80%<br>95%               | RAT] 5295 6295 62505                       | 6 advs upto 90% No MIP  ES  Huirday vaustre, mm 2100- Advances up to 85% No MIP  Free ASU for 6 months & advs to 90 % No MIP                                                           | 1st 5 yrs 5% of advance<br>to 31 3 0.4 4.5% of som repaid<br>up 1st 5 yrs. 3% of SR<br>1st 4 yrs 5% of sum repaid                                                                     |
| Aurthern Rock  Aurheth Simply Bristol & West Hinkley & Rugby B                                | 0645 96519C<br>0800 119955<br>\$0800 774499<br>0390 133149<br>RST-TIME               | 4.49%<br>4.79%<br>4.89%<br>5.65%                           | CAP  1.6.01 01.6.01 3 years 4 years             | 95%<br>95%<br>80%<br>95%               | 2295<br>2295<br>22505<br>22505             | & advis upto 90% No MIP  ES  Huirday vaustier, mei 2100- Advances up to 85% No MIP  Free ASU for 6 months & advis to 90 % No MIP                                                       | 1st 5 yrs 5% of advance<br>to 31 3 0.4 4.5% of som repaid<br>up 1st 5 yrs. 3% of SR<br>1st 4 yrs 5% of sum repaid                                                                     |
| Aurthern Rock  Aurheth Simply Bristol & West Hinkley & Rugby B                                | 0645 96519C<br>0800 119955<br>50800 774499<br>0390 123149<br>RST-TIME<br>0345 454546 | 4.49%<br>4.79%<br>4.89%<br>5.65%<br>BUY<br>3.99%           | CAP  1.6.01 01.6.01 3 years 4 years ERS (1 year | 95%<br>95%<br>80%<br>95%               | 2295<br>2295<br>22505<br>22505             | & advis upto 90% No MIP  ES  Huirday vaustier, mei 2100- Advances up to 85% No MIP  Free ASU for 6 months & advis to 90 % No MIP  E UNLESS SHO 25% advances rebated & up               | 1st. 5 yrs. 5% of advance to 31 3 0.4 1.5% of som repaid up 1st 5 yrs. 3% of SR 1st 4 yrs. 5% of som repaid )WN) 1st 5 yrs. 6mm/ts micrest and robate rectained                       |
| Aorthern Rock  Ambeth Simply  Bristol & West  Hinkley & Rugby B  Scarborough BS  Fi  Moolwich | 0645 96519C<br>0800 119955<br>50800 774499<br>0390 123149<br>RST-TIME<br>0345 454546 | 4.49%<br>4.79%<br>4.89%<br>5.65%<br>BUY<br>3.99%<br>4.55%R | CAP  1.6.01 01.6.01 3 years 4 years ERS (1 year | 95%<br>95%<br>80%<br>95%<br>VAR<br>95% | RAT]  2295  2295  22505  2295  (ABLI \$100 | & advis upto 90% No MIP  ES  Huiday valuative, min 2100- Advances up to 85% No MIP  Free ASU for 6 months & advis to 90% No MIP  E UNLESS SHO 2.5% advances rebated & up to 90% no MIP | 1st 5 yrs 5% of advance to 31 3 D4 4.5% of sum repaid up 1st 5 yrs, 3% of SR  1st 4 yrs 5% of sum repaid  OWN)  1st 5 yrs 5mits interest and rebate rectained to 1602 7% of s batance |

|                                                                                        |                                                      | $_{ m BE}$                                               | ST                             | BOI                                                  | RROV                            | VER                                                    | s R                             | ATES                                    | 1                                       |                               | ing at the                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                                                                        | VARI                                                 | AR                                                       | I.E                            | DI                                                   | SCC                             | ת וכ                                                   | VTF                             | D R                                     | ATF                                     | S                             |                              |
| Scarborough BS                                                                         | 0990 13314                                           |                                                          |                                | vear                                                 |                                 | 9250<br>1250                                           |                                 |                                         |                                         | ।<br>।त्र हिग्ड 5-3%          | ol Sum recaed                |
| Wookrich                                                                               | 0345 45454                                           |                                                          |                                | 1.5.01                                               | 95%                             | •                                                      | Advance                         | ≲up to 90%                              |                                         | to 1.5 03: 6 mc               |                              |
| West Bromwich BS                                                                       | 0121 58064                                           | Q4 4.A                                                   | 5 <b>%</b> 3                   | years                                                | 85%                             | \$295                                                  | £250 ret<br>ASU for             | bate, tree AND<br>1 wear                | ° & tree                                | isi 5 yrs. 5% o               | sum repaid                   |
| Halifax                                                                                | 0800 20304                                           | 9 55                                                     | 0°s 3°                         | 1.7.04                                               | 90%                             | -                                                      |                                 | & remigs fre                            | e valuationt                            | o 31.7.06 <sup>-</sup> 3-19   | of advance                   |
|                                                                                        | UNSI                                                 | CI                                                       | JRE                            | ED                                                   | PER                             | SC                                                     | NA                              | L L                                     | DAN                                     | IS                            | _                            |
|                                                                                        | APR                                                  | FIXE                                                     | B MONT                         | ilt Pay                                              | MERT OR S                       | S,DQQ F                                                | DR 3 YE4J                       | RS                                      |                                         |                               |                              |
| Mortbern Rock                                                                          | 0345 42142                                           | 1 93                                                     | % H                            | \                                                    | Nah Insur                       | ance                                                   | 181.67                          | No I                                    | insurance                               | £164.19                       |                              |
| Tesco                                                                                  | 08-15 60060                                          |                                                          |                                |                                                      | With Insur                      |                                                        | 182.39                          |                                         | Insurançe                               |                               |                              |
| Phone A Loan<br>(Yorksbire Bank)                                                       | 0600 10868                                           | 98 11.                                                   | 9%                             |                                                      | Nith Insur                      | ance                                                   | 183.40                          | No i                                    | insurance                               | £164 61                       |                              |
|                                                                                        |                                                      |                                                          | O                              | VE                                                   | RDI                             | RAI                                                    | TS                              |                                         |                                         |                               |                              |
|                                                                                        |                                                      |                                                          | ACCOUN                         | т                                                    | AVTHO                           | BIZES                                                  | APR                             |                                         | Shai<br>Sek                             | THORISED .                    | PG.                          |
| Alliance & Leiceste                                                                    | x 0500 95                                            | 4545                                                     | Alliance                       |                                                      | 0.959                           |                                                        | 12.00%                          |                                         | 2.20                                    |                               | 9.8%                         |
| Nationwide BS                                                                          | 0500 30                                              |                                                          | Flexacc                        | <u> </u>                                             | 0.979                           |                                                        | 12.20%                          |                                         | 2.10                                    |                               | 8.3%                         |
| Abbey National                                                                         | 0800 73                                              |                                                          | Bank                           | Valie                                                | 1.05%                           | _                                                      | 13.40%                          |                                         | 2.20                                    |                               | 9.9%                         |
|                                                                                        | *****                                                |                                                          |                                |                                                      |                                 | _                                                      |                                 |                                         |                                         |                               |                              |
|                                                                                        |                                                      |                                                          |                                |                                                      | CAR                             | DS                                                     |                                 |                                         |                                         |                               |                              |
|                                                                                        |                                                      |                                                          |                                | CO                                                   |                                 |                                                        |                                 |                                         |                                         |                               |                              |
|                                                                                        |                                                      |                                                          |                                | - 51                                                 | AND                             | ARD                                                    |                                 |                                         |                                         |                               |                              |
|                                                                                        | TELL                                                 | PHORE                                                    |                                | CARB                                                 | AND.                            | BA                                                     | Œ                               | APR                                     | FEE                                     | MTEREST                       | RIP<br>MEGAL                 |
| Pennie's Rank Coor                                                                     |                                                      |                                                          | 155                            | CARB<br>TYPE                                         |                                 | EAT<br>S.P                                             | TE                              | APR<br>%<br>6 90%                       | FEE<br>PA<br>Nii                        | NTEREST<br>FREE PERIOR        | - INCOME                     |
|                                                                                        | neticut_050                                          | 0 5510                                                   |                                | CARB<br>TYPE<br>Maste                                | :AND:                           | EAS<br>3 0.5                                           | rE<br>i6%                       | 6.90%                                   | FEE<br>PA<br>Nii<br>Nii                 | 56 days                       | -<br>HIEOME                  |
| RBS Advanta                                                                            | neticut 050<br>080                                   | 0 5510<br>0 0777                                         | 70                             | CARB<br>TYPE<br>Maste<br>Visa                        |                                 | 3 0.5<br>0.5                                           | 6%<br>65%                       | 6.90%<br>6.90%                          | Nii<br>Nii                              | 56 days<br>56 days            | -                            |
| RBS Advanta                                                                            | neticut 050<br>080                                   | 0 5510                                                   | 70                             | CARB<br>TYPE<br>Maste                                |                                 | 3 0.5<br>0.5                                           | rE<br>i6%                       | 6.90%                                   | Nì                                      | 56 days                       | =                            |
| People's Bank Conr<br>RBS Advanta<br>Mationwide BS                                     | neticut 050<br>080                                   | 0 5510<br>0 0777                                         | 70<br>)11                      | Maste<br>Visa<br>Visa                                |                                 | 0.5<br>0.5<br>0.6                                      | 65%<br>65%                      | 6.90%<br>6.90%                          | Nii<br>Nii                              | 56 days<br>56 days            | =                            |
| RBS Advanta                                                                            | 050<br>050<br>950                                    | 0 5510<br>0 0777                                         | 70<br>)11                      | Visa<br>Visa                                         | ercard/Vi                       | 3 0.5<br>0.5<br>0.6<br>ARD                             | 65%<br>65%<br>8%                | 6.90%<br>6.90%                          | Nii<br>Nii                              | 56 days<br>56 days<br>52 days | =                            |
| RBS Advanta<br>Nationwide BS                                                           | 950<br>950<br>980                                    | 0 5510<br>0 0777<br>0 3020                               | 70<br>111<br>170               | Maste<br>Visa<br>Visa<br>GO<br>Base                  | LD C                            | 0.5<br>0.5<br>0.6<br>ARD                               | 65%<br>65%<br>8%                | 6.90%<br>6.90%<br>8.50%                 | NII<br>NII<br>NII                       | 56 days<br>56 days<br>52 days | -                            |
| RBS Advanta<br>Nationwide BS<br>Co-operative Bank                                      | 050<br>050<br>950<br>080<br>080<br>080<br>081        | 0 5510<br>0 0777<br>0 3020                               | 70<br>111<br>170               | Maste<br>Visa<br>Visa<br>GO<br>Base                  | LD C.                           | 0.5<br>0.5<br>0.6<br>ARD<br>N//                        | 66%<br>655%<br>88%              | 6.90%<br>6.90%<br>8.50%                 | NII<br>NII<br>NII<br>NII                | 56 days<br>56 days<br>52 days |                              |
| RBS Advanta<br>Mationwide BS<br>Co-operative Bank<br>People's Bank Cont                | 050<br>050<br>950<br>080<br>080<br>080<br>081        | 0 5510<br>0 0777<br>0 3020<br>0 4040<br>0 5510           | 70<br>011<br>070<br>055<br>70  | Maste<br>Visa<br>Visa<br>GO<br>Base<br>Maste<br>Visa | LD C<br>Rate Visa               | 0.5<br>0.6<br>0.6<br>ARD<br>N/A<br>0.5                 | 66%<br>65%<br>88%<br>9S<br>165% | 6.90%<br>6.90%<br>8.50%<br>N/A<br>6.90% | NII<br>NII<br>NII<br>ST20               | 56 days<br>56 days<br>52 days | -<br>-<br>-<br>-<br>520K     |
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and other groups on structured finance transactions: analysing investment opportunities and supporting origination transaction work. The successful candidate will possess a minimum degree coupled with 3/4 years relevant work experience. The salary offered is commensurate with experience. If you possess the skills required for this position, please send your CV to PO Box 21015B, Independent Newspapers, One

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# It's a bonus to put one over on galleryland

I'M IN Cork Street with Sash. Her count. Let me make one thing mother met my mother at antenatal classes, in case you don't remember, and we've been foisted on each other ever since.

It's a slightly uneasy friendship: she took the art-school route, and now hangs out with a lot of underemployed jewellery-makers and the like, laughing at saddos with proper jobs and living off their trust funds - and I have a proper is definitely my girl.

at the moment is that my bonus has a cunning way of making people finally winged its way into my ac- move jobs less often.

clear; it's not what you'd call a fortune. In fact, compared with the amount of other people's money I bosh around on a daily basis it's jump ship. peanuts. Apart from anything else, the bonus-earning year runs from January to December - and I only

started this job in November. You may be wondering why, if the "b-e" year runs from Jan to Dec, the "b" itself is only now arriving at its job. But the thing is, I want to destination. To be honest, I'm not buy a painting, and Sash, I figure, entirely sure. I think it may be something to do with the new tax The reason I have money to burn year and all that, but it may be just

After all, if you don't receive last year's handout until you've already accrued a third of this year's, the reasoning goes, you're less likely to

It isn't every City institution that delays the payout like this, as far as I'm aware. You'd have had to be blind not to notice the number of new toys that everyone seemed to have in January, and not Christmas presents either. Problem is, it's hard to get accurate information about the whole bonus business. As everyone knows, size matters - so

In my case, the size is definitely small, but large enough to buy



THE TRADER

The problem is that Sash wants me to buy Art and I just want to buy a painting

something to jolly up the flat. a recording of policemen breathfusty somehow. But something to hang on the wall - well, that's a different proposition, and it's the one that's brought Sash and me to the centre of galleryland, the hip and happening centre of London's hip and happening art scene.

to plan. The problem is that Sash wants me to buy Art and I just want to buy a painting. Sash has is raving about it. dragged me all over the capital: we've been to Whitechapel to see a box brownie surrounded by red.

There's only so much furniture you testing drivers and called Speed: can have, and antiques are too we've gone to Stoke Newington to see a room covered entirely with scrunched-up condom wrappers called Too Many \*\*\*\* we've stood next to a slide projector while it clicked through views of a car moving further and further along a city road. And now we're looking at a Only things aren't really going canvas that's completely black apart from a small red triangle in

"It's the dramatic tension, the inguffs, or that's what it sounds like amber and green lights flashing to since I'm too busy thinking about

naked emperors to listen properly. Anyway, you can imagine Sash's delight when she walks into my flat a week later and there, hanging on the wall, is a canvas that's completely black apart from a small red triangle in the bottom left corner. She squeals and starts on about the dramatic tension and the sense of space and the integrity and how the artist is a real young hotshot and his work will be worth even more SOOR

the bottom left corner - and Sash So I have to tell her. "The thing is, Sash," I say. "I painted it myself. tegrity: the sense of space," she It looks a lot like it, doesn't it." Only, for some reason, I don't suppose it's worth as much....

# The flexible way to benefit employees

CHOICE IS the new buzzword. Increasingly, organisations are reporting that employees want more 35 per cent say explaining the choice - choice over how they work and how they are remunerated.

The main area in which companies are delivering choice to staff is in benefits. This is, in part, driven by the need to rethink the way benefits are offered and still allow companies to remain competitive, while keeping a tight control on costs.

We are also beginning to see more companies offering choice over other aspects of work. The motivation is clear. Providing your employees with that choice and how they are remunerated gives a good pression to the marketplace - proe essive, leading edge, responsive. But how practical is it and what can be done to help with the management of such flexible initiatives?

At Arthur Andersen we conducted a survey of companies' attitudes towards flexible benefit schemes. Sixty per cent of companies operating flexible benefit schemes find BY CAROL WOODLEY

scheme to employees is difficult. On closer inspection, the survey shows companies introducing flexible benefits spend relatively little on

administration systems, use systems that carry out only core functions, and run their "flex" systems rather autonomously. Communication with employees sticks mainly to memos, e-mails and presentations.

We feel the tremendous advances in technology should be used to help the management of flexible benefit schemes - cutting paper flows, integrating with human resources, payroll, ac-counting and other internal systems, and enabling easier communication with those outside the company involved in providing

Systems can be adapted to allow employees to see projections of difshowing how the flexibility on offer would affect pay. The effective use

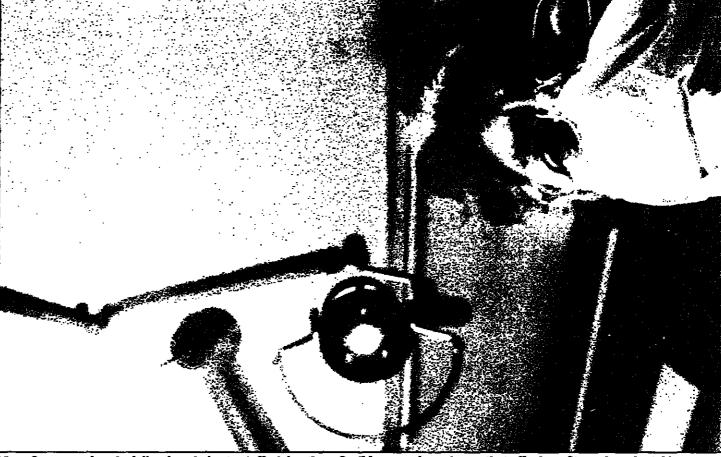
the management of other initiatives, such as flexible working. But companies do not seem to be taking advantage of these possibilities, and the reason seems to be, simply,

In our survey, more than 60 per cent of companies considering introducing flexible benefits expect administration to be complex and costly, and more than 20 per cent expect communication to be difficult. But these firms do not expect to spend much on systems and technology - a few thousand pounds to purchase, set up, install, test and run a system to administer their multi-

One cannot imagine such small investments being made on other systems, such as payroll. The result will inflexible non user-friendly and liable and manage the choices. soon to be obsolete.

million-pound benefit programmes.

We have developed a flexible re-Choice! It is designed to help com- benefits schemes that administration is complex, and of technology could also help with panies communicate the choices for



Many firms are already delivering choice to staff, giving them flexible rewards packages that offer benefits such as dental insurance

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employees in a clear and under- troduced our own system, Alpha. be companies using systems that are standable way and help administer

The system enables companies to communicate and administer beneward management tool, taking the fits plans effectively and efficiently. thing it is aimed at managing - running either traditional or flexible

This is a traditional flexible benefits scheme giving employees a combudget, to cover benefits including medical and dental insurance, retail and tax return preparation. We also use Choice! as our main information

to administer much more farreaching concepts such as Flexible bined remuneration and benefits Reward, where employees can choose how their entire package is we have the technology to implement delivered, and the Flexible Working such a concept. given choice over aspects such as their office accommodation, working hours, business travel and

Ultimately, Choice! could be used equipment. The extension of flexible rewards to cover the entire working environment is probably beyond most companies at the moment. But

> The author is a partner in Arthur Andersen's human capital services division

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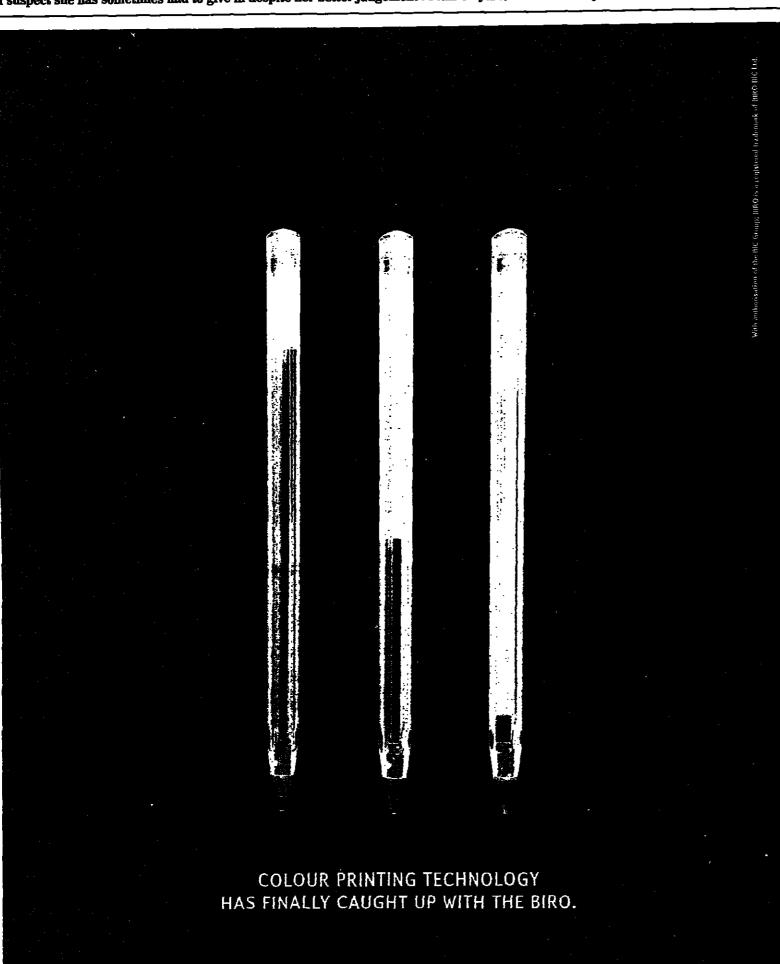
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'I suspect she has sometimes had to give in despite her better judgement': John Smythe, founder of Smythe Dorward Lambert, with his 'concrete barrier of calmness' and vice-chairman, Colette Dorward



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OHN SMYTHE: I had been working for a maverick American billionaire as his European Mr Fix-It for six years. I'd worked for big American companies, and read early stuff about culture, and decided there was a good niche called "internal communication". There were lots of PR and advertising companies, but 15 years ago there was nobody doing that.

I hawked my idea-around, but back then, it was: "Don't be daft - run along, boy." Now everyone is clambering on the bandwagon. I didn't know anything about consultancies, and Wolff Olins was the only one I talked to. Wally Olins became like a father figure. He was a supporting, encouraging, big kind of guy, and unusually in Britain then, he was very "cando" and aggressive.

I had the view that a man with a vision can go a long way. That's when Colette appeared. She was at a meeting where I was talking about internal communication. She phoned and said: "I want to come and work with you." I was pleased and flattered she wanted to join.

Colette was just a slip of a girl: young and inexperienced. but very determined, and very principled. She felt that here was a cause that she could join and very actively support. I have been married three limes, but I have known Colette for probably longer than anyone else. Often, I feel what she's thinking without a word being uttered. Paradoxically, she's one of the most enigmatic people, and I often feel I don't know her at all.

She quickly became the second driving force, though we were completely different characters. I was the visionary who had the big idea, and not a great completer-finisher – I would set the stage and sell remorselessly - and Colette put humanity into the place and made it attractive for people to come and work there. Her role was to build the business behind the oratory.

At the time, the market was dominated by the big advertising agencies and external communication providers. It was viewed as message delivery: image management. We said it was reputation that matters, not image. You have to look at the ethics of the business; you need a spiritual approach. If you have a strong vision and good set of values, profit will follow.

Every CEO talks about the importance of people, but what are they actually doing about hiring and firing them? What is the nature of the cultural contract? What will motivate them? We created a debate with clients about good communication, to see that people are part of the decision-making process. It's not a woolly agenda, or driven by wimpy thought. It's about the hard content of the contract between employer and employee.

In that five years, we started to create a philosophy and a new employment opportunity, and we created a business which had a £3m turnover. Then we fell out with Wolff Olins. They were a fantastic

sponsor but they wanted to saying "Treally think there's a merge our subsidiary. We were guerrillas - we had created our own identity. We had a very measy six months, then we took off. We left on the Friday and on Monday we camped in the offices of Collett Dickinson Pearce across the road. They were marvellous. They said: We'll lend you money and get you started."

There were months when we weren't drawing salaries. It was touch and go, but we were absolutely committed. I learnt during that period that Colette is very hard-working. She is reserved and quite difficult to talk to - and clear about her boundaries - yet she was utterly reliable. She has a great sense of calm, a concrete barrier of calmness. She also has a very occasional wild temper.

Ten years on, we have 80 people working for SDL, and we have a very able second generation gradually taking over our management. You have to be willing to let go of power, but it's like a bereavement. You have to find a new role. Not having to be client-focused does mean you can be more creative and more daring.

Three years ago, we decided that the first vision - to establish an internal communication niche - had been achieved. Our vision at the mo-

'I had the big idea and Colette put humanity into the place and made it attractive for people to come and work there'

ment is about taking SDL into the behavioural and psychological arena.

The next vision is about challenging the current change industry. It's an intellectual hegemony, the "ghastly triangle" between the consultancy, the client base and the academic world.

I would say Colette values the fact that I brook no opposition. I suspect she has sometimes had to give in despite her better judgement, but it's not about having the upper hand. It's more about compatibility of intention, with two different ways of getting things done.

OLETTE DORWARD: I had heard John speak and thought he had something new to say. I knew of Wolff Olins and thought they were an amazing company. When I heard John was setting up there, I thought it was a really explosive combination. I had been pottering round looking for something to ignite: I was in financial and corporate public relations, which taught me to think on my feet and get into places quickly and try to find what's going on. I rang John and said: "Give us a job." He said: "Come round for

tea. At Wolff Olins, there was a tremendous feeling of creativity and passion, and John was

gap in the market." There was no job specification for me. I didn't even have a desk. John struck me as someone who terested; that's very attractive to someone who was trying to find a direction and looking for leadership. I didn't feel I could get on with him at first because he was so different to me. We have been together for 15 years, and I have grown up. It's been a voyage of discovery, doing fe

male things in a man's world. John creates opportunities for people. He doesn't nurture you through these, but he is an incredibly generous and open other people to get on and do their best. That hit the spot for me, because I took it up.

There's a great deal be for other people to break into. There is that male-female thing, which is unusual in business. It's only been establishing a bigger company - with more senior players who really are bringing things to the table - that has forced that relationship apart. It would have suffocated: this has allowed. both of us to grow as individu-

We were both driven by an idea and an interest in how to make people look at the heart of a business matter. Our apparent allegiance was to a world of design and the way an organisation represents itself

through image. Leaving Wolff Olins was a natural point at which to break I made the choice to stick with John, someone I trust and felt a complete identity with in terms of value and in what we wanted to try to build.

Now most big organisations have somebody who is formally responsible for internal communications. That has been a major shift and we were part of that movement. The fabric ofworking life is changing, and people want different things from their employment experience. They are liberated to think and be creative.

We have made a clearer distinction between managemen and leadership in our own bush ness and have created opportunities for senior people. It's difficult transition for John and I, and for any entrepreneurial person, to know when to step back. It's more difficult for me because my instinct is mater. nal. It's my baby, and I don't ille delegating motherhood to somebody else. I have had learn that I'm of more value in the business if I let people much more experienced than me get involved in decision making and management process. What matters is a keep the heart alive.

John and I touch base on things that really matter, but that's not to say we spend a k of time together I think Lam h alter ego, and during our work ing life I have felt a sense ? reinvention of self. I have he the opportunity to do that several points, and there's freshness because we have

got stuck in a groove. INTERVIEWS B RACHELLE THACKRAY

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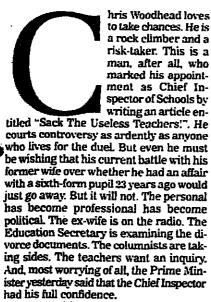
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THE INDEPENDENT, Wednesday 14 April 1999

# **VEDNESDAY REVIEW**

FEATURES • ARTS • PLUS THE INFORMATION DAILY COMMENT •



The man himself has gone silent. This is uncharacteristic. He is, his office said, on holiday. Really? But the Easter break was last week. There was a pause and a flurry. Yes, definitely on holiday. Besides, he had said everything he had to say. His he had said everything he had to say. The profileation for a former wife is not on holiday. Nor has she had her full say. Yesterday, for instance, she was on the Today programme. "He brought this up," she said. "He brought it are the beginning of into the public domain at the beginning of February. It was all over the papers. I haven't brought it up. I'm just trying to get at the truth," said Cathy Woodhead. She believes Tony Blair should be looking at the so incerent to me truth, too. "I'm afraid that anyone who allows lies to carry on cannot be trusted." Some see this as the work of a woman

the say that Cathy Woodhead, is also a mountaineer, is just a more an erester opporter muscular version of Margaret Cook. In the ः है विश्वास्ट end, Margaret didn't get her man and why intil gainese bullets should Cathy? But such a comparison doesn't hold up, at least in terms of timming person the taking. If Ms Woodhead is seeking revenge, to get a mint has been served not only cold but ab-book, cried her crocodile tears or hage Trees a great ded tower the serialisation, though her articles when six and in the Mail on Sunday have been deadly. name in the sorry, but I consider that telling the and the state is unusualist truth is one of the most important things the oran been at we have," she says.

Of course, the Chief Inspector insists that he is telling the truth and that his afseries players fair with Amanda Johnston began when she was no longer his pupil at Gordano School near Bristol. After all, the allegations of hearth and the second tions are hardly new. The News of the World planned to publish them in 1995 and was told by his solicitor that they had their dates wrong. His former wife said that she kept we said that she kept quiet because their daughter Tammy would suffer first. Now divorce documents would appear to would appear to support the former wife's point of view. Last Sunday, The Observer noted a solicitor's note from 1976 that said Aime to be disclosed, because she was a sixth-former when the adultery started and it was understood the teaching profession were [sic] averse to teachers committing adultery with sixth-form pupils". In February 1977, Mr Woodhead signed a statement saying he wanted to keep her name

secret for "professional reasons". So what are we to think? Should Chris Woodhead resign from his £115,000 a year ob? Should there be an inquiry? If so, should Mr Woodhead be treated as any Trail \*\* eacher would and be suspended while it in a welf joes on? And what is his real problem: the The iffair, the lie, or both? Does it matter that new legislation debated yesterday in arliament would mean that teachers who have relationships with sixth-form teachers who had any place in the education system. His



## BY ANN TRENEMAN

is the kind of thing that is only believable because it is fact. No novelist would dare to think it. The columnists are delighted. The fam-

ily feud is now a matter for public debate

and opinions are whizzing like paper aeroplanes in an untended classroom. David Aaronovitch says it is a professional, not a private matter, for the man whose zeal for school standards is matched by his helmet-like haircut. Libby Purves has called for an inquiry. Melanie Phillips, the scourge of single mothers, has jumped to his defence. And John Clare of The Daily Telegraph yesterday wrote these words: "So - still supposing Mr Woodhead lied would that be a sufficient reason for him to be hounded from office? Setting the triviality of the lie against the weight of his achievements would suggest not. It is not fanciful to argue that the life chances of tens of thousands of children have been improved by his actions." Try explaining that

logic to a child who asks if lying is wrong. Cathy Woodhead is wrong about one thing, however. Mr Woodhead did not bring this into the public domain. Or at least that was never his intention when he responded to a question from a student teacher at the University of Exeter in January. It was at this forum, with no journalist in sight, that Mr Woodhead was asked if teachers who had relationships with pupils

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relative adults, we have a responsibility to those who are younger than us and therefore it isn't a good idea at all, but I don't think necessarily that a teacher should be automatically drummed out of the profession. I think human beings can get themselves into messes and I think those messes can be experiential and educative on both sides."

It was just one of several questions and answers and Mr Woodhead must have thought little of it. The man who loves risks and is often described as arrogant probably thought there was none. He has since hinted darkly that it may have been a conspiracy, but even he should have noticed that there were 200-odd people in the room. And he certainly must have known that the session was being taped, both officially as

response was equivocal: "As adults, or part of the course and unofficially by sev- from the Pinnacle Club, the national spector, who many blame for making their eral students. One of the tapes was put in the library. In a matter of weeks, The Independent had the story. When called for his comments, he immediately realised the situation but still came out fighting. He said he believed the questioner had been troubled, though in such a large gathering that seems very intuitive indeed. He added: "In most circumstances. I think a teacher who has a relationship with a pupil should be barred from the profession." He said his remarks had to be seen in context. "I don't think it is the job of the chief inspector to pontificate about these things."

If only he had followed his own advice. It wasn't long before others remembered the News of the World story. His former wife heard the news while in a climbers' but in Snowdonia. "I was with a group of friends

L to R: Cathy Woodhead, Chris Woodhead, Amanda Johnston

women's rock climbing club," she would write later. She had spent the day on "an invigorating ridge walk, battling through a gale which at times threatened to knock us to the ground". A friend, however, had been listening to the radio. "At first I couldn't believe what I was

hearing," Ms Woodhead said. "Then I was simply incensed. For more than 20 years, I have lived with the knowledge that Chris had a sexual relationship with a pupil where he taught. I learned that for certain in April 1976, when he told me he was having an affair with a girl named Amanda Johnston... We had been married for six years and our daughter Tammy was 11 months old." Before she had kept quiet. This time she didn't. "Yes. I thought, while you were away being educative and experiential with someone else. I was looking after our baby daughter." She decided to "set the record straight" and, in pure ex-wife mode now. added: "While we were married I allowed myself to be undermined by Chris. I gave him sole responsibility for my happiness. Twenty-three years on, I realise he is still exerting control over me and I am no longer prepared to be manipulated by him.

I feel I have protected him long enough." Chris Woodhead's many enemies will have read that with more than a little joy in their hearts. This will include many teachers and academics. The Chief Inlives a misery, taunting them in headline after headline, was finally being inspected himself. His friends are far less plentiful, but with names like Prince Charles and Tony Blair you don't need a lot. Until now they have backed him against what Education Secretary David Blunkett has called "vile" allegations. But now the Department of Education is using fewer such adjectives. Mr Blunkett is now inspecting the divorce documents.

It is all starting to have an inevitable momentum to it. But, as in so many cases of public morality and privacy recently, the problem is not so much the actual event as the cover-up. A lie is still a sackable offence, despite the views of The Daily Telegraph. "The issue is about a lie," says Alice Mahon, the Labour MP who has put down an Early Day Motion and called for him to resign. "This has nothing to do with his private life."

And so the time is nearing when it is time to quit bluffing. It is no longer a game, even for those who love and understand danger. "If, at the bottom of a rock climb, you worry about a difficult move at 50ft or 100ft, you are never going to get off the ground," Mr Woodhead has said. "Psychologically, you have got to take it stage by stage. Also, you have got to held your nerve, and this is applicable to the kind of work I do." And that, certainly, is true.

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### This is no way to protect Kosovars

Sir: With childre slowly roasted to death on trains, e only result of the bombing is tradd a third party (Nato) to those already committing atrocities in a brutal civil war between the Serbian government and KLA terrorists Nato's apologies seem to be exact quotes from the words of the IRA. who should sue for copyright.

When a province is fought over, there are large civilian casualties and, ironically, the Serbs may have saved lives by expelling Kosovars if Nato sends in ground troops.

Serbia can "withdraw" its troops by telling them to take off their uniforms. Then, as experience in Northern Ireland has shown. infantry would be unable to protect the civilian population. The Kosovars would be crazy to return under ineffective Nato "protection". The only solution is a Russian

protectorate with no Nato participation whatsoever. DEREKJCOLE St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex

Sir: Nato has apologised for killing and maiming civilians on a train during the attack on a railway bridge near Leskovac. They were also quick to add that a vital military supply line was targeted, and have destroyed fuel storage and depots and power plants throughout Yugoslavia.

How does one distinguish military from civilian targets in a modern society? Mr Milosevic's ability to make war his certainly been diminished by the bombing. but the population of Yugoslavia will have no fuel for agricultural machines to farm the land this spring, leaving them with no crops to eat this autumn. They will be left with no fuel and power plants to provide heating in the severe Balkan winter.

The Albanians in Kosovo should enjoy human rights and autonomy, but the only way to achieve that is through political talks unhampered by the armed rebellion of the Albanians or ultimatums from the West to the Serbs. Dr NENAD SARAPA Northolt, Middlesex

Sir: The Government's unwillingness to commit ground troops to Kosovo is not, as suggested by Mr Kirkham and Dr Palmier (letters, 12 April), due to cowardice or silly technical problems. Rather, it is because Kosovo is unfamiliar terrain for the Nato troops, while the Serbians they face have, in many cases, lived there since childhood.

Nato troops would have to fight into hostile territory, victims of sniper fire and guerrilla warfare, against an army who have an awful lot more to lose than Nato do - the land they believe is rightfully theirs. RACHEL MANTELL

Sir: After more than two weeks of bombings against fixed targets in both Serbia and Kosovo the weight of attacks should now be aimed overwhelmingly at tanks and infantry formations in Kosovo. Attacking barracks, telephone exchanges and bridges in Serbia, with the risk of major loss of civilian life, is not sensible at this stage.

The fact that only one Nato plane has been shot down while there have been several thousand missions suggests that few of the attacks have been carried out at a very close range fore aggressive tactics are probably needed for the air-only policy to succeed.

SIMON KNAPP Uckfield, East Sussex

Sir. Michael Laird (letter, 10 April) advocates the arming and training of the KLA and reminds us that "the defeat of the Bosnian Serbs was brought about by local forces, mainly Croatian".

The KLA is no doubt evolving into a more formidable and disciplined organisation which could take control of much of Kosovo providing Serb heavy weaponry was neutralised. But it is not an army. The Croat forces to which Mr Laird refers were a

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Kalpesh Lathigra

disciplined, well motivated army with heavy artillery and armour which fought a brilliant six-day campaign to retake the occupied lands of the Krajina and with the Muslim forces effectively gave the Serbs the choice of negotiating (Dayton) or facing total defeat. GRAHAM PERKINS Bromyard, Herefordshire

Sir: Less than four months ago the US State Department had this to say about the KLA:

The KLA harass or kidnap anyone who comes to the police ... KLA representatives had threatened to kill villagers and burn their homes if they did not join the KLA ... The KLA harassment has reached such intensity that residents of six villages in the Stimje region are 'ready to flee'." (Compiled from daily reports of the Kosovo Diplomatic Observer

Mission, 21 December 1998.) That was when fighting was at a lull. Since the bombing the KLA has launched an all-out offensive. Is it any wonder that between saturation bombing of Kosovo and attacks by the terrorist KLA over a third of all ethnic groups in Kosovo (Albanians, Serbs, Turks and gypsies) have fled the area, going into Macedonia. Albania and north to Serbia itself?

Far from being an impartial defender of human rights the Western powers are complicit in all the atrocities committed in Yugoslavia over the last eight years, having sponsored armed separatists against Belgrade from the start of these civil wars. ROBERT CLAYTON Higher Foxdale, Isle of Man

Sir: A foreign policy with "an ethical dimension" should by now have produced a recognisable stance over Turkey and East Timor, not to mention Burma. Instead, we have this intervention in the Balkans in which the objective is anything but clear, the strategy non-existent and the tactics little more than letting the military test their weapons. And I take nothing away from the service personnel who are obliged to implement this folly.

Nothing has been said about the financial costs. The future, for this government is a strange land full only of promises. When will this adventure cause the government to renege on yet another manifesto pledge? How distant now are freedom of information, reduced waiting lists (the real figures, not the fudged ones), a proper transport White Paper with sensible investment in rail, water

and road infrastructure? Not least, what plans and funds are in place to rebuild Yugoslavia. or do Blair and Clinton believe that these troubled people deserve to be consigned to a pre-industrial **COLIN STANDFIELD** 

London W7

Sir: Living in the United States, there seems to me an odd contradiction. Many people championing the use of military force for "humanitarian" reasons are the same people ardently opposed to programmes providing money for the basic needs of our

own poorest citizens. Granted, there is no parallel to genocide, and the problems faced

Sir: It is always frustrating to

see the supermarkets claim that

they are "creating" jobs ("Tesco plans 10,000 jobs" 12 April). Jobs

are not created - they are moved

around and lost altogether.

Every time a new store opens

there is a net loss of jobs in the

surrounding area within three

years. Other smaller businesses

selling food and other products

such as pharmaceuticals, petroi

and even newspapers cannot

Sustain, the Alliance for Better

Sir: I'm not sure whether it's in

my best interest to deny it, but

for the record I never worked

compete with a giant retail

outlet nearby.

VICKI HIRD

London N1

Policy Director

Food and Farming

by residents of the United Sates or England do not compare with the horror faced by those living in Kosovo. But the basic question is the same: is there a moral obligation for the rich and the strong to care for those who are suffering and cannot help themselves? Remembering our inaction on

so many similar occasions, and knowing how indifferent the United States is in moving beyond words on most "humanitarian" causes, I do have to wonder how many of our leaders are really concerned for the lives of those in Kosovo, and how many are simply excited to sit in front of a television and watch expensive bombs explode in the night. <u>Mark allen Hunt</u> Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Sir: Serbian independence was won from the Ottoman Empire in 1878 at the Congress of Berlin. That settlement followed the Russian victory in the Russo-Turkish war of 1877, which was sparked by massacres (in Bulgaria) by Turkish forces massacres which the Russians felt

IN BRIEF

on Lethal Weapon 3, nor was I

asked to (John Walsh on

Sir: Your report about the

Authority adjudications on our

adverts (12 April) neglected to

mention that it rejected six out

of the nine complaints made by

hunt supporters. The authority

agreed with our assertion that

trauma they undergo as part of

the hunt. It agreed they could

be simply ripped apart by the

hounds before death, and could

foxes can die of pathological

shock from the stress and

also suffer extensive

Advertising Standards

Monday, 12 April).

TOM STOPPARD

London SW10

it was their humanitarian

responsibility to prevent. Serbian independence resulted from Russian intervention in the Balkans to prevent a humanitarian disaster. If Kosovo wins independence from Serbia as a result of Nato action, the Serbs can at least comfort themselves that the Kosovars are merely following in their footsteps. JOHN RIDDELL London SE3

Sir: The Turkish people will be disappointed by the report by Andrew Buncombe (7 April) on the Kosovo refugees (" The plane is going to Turkey,' said the official 'But don't tell the refugees. They might refuse to get on"").

It may well be that some refugees would prefer to go to a rich country like Germany than a not so rich country like Turkey. Many of our own people are living in conditions which are much in need of improvement, and we do not have huge resources to spend on refugees. Nevertheless we have taken in many thousands of Kurds, driven out of northern Iraq by Saddam Hussein, and have now

abdominal wounding. It also

International Fund for Animal

Crowborough, East Sussex

Sir: Have you noticed that

whenever ministers of the

Crown are interviewed for

is almost always a copy of

Who's Who on a bookshelf

single governmental copy

which is passed round as

interviewee's image?

PETER MARTIN

television at their desks there

immediately behind them? Do

you know (a) why they need

one at all, and (b) if they have

one each, or whether there is a

required to lend gravitas to the

while pregnant.

SIMON POPE

Welfare

agreed that vixens were bunted

agreed to take 20,000 people from Kosovo, which will be providing

more than our fair share of shelter. We will do our best for the refugees and perhaps your reporter might recognise the hospitality which the people of Turkey are extending to them. OZDEM SANBERK Ambassador, Turkish Embassy London SW1

Sir: The only time a substantial country has been bombed from the air into surrender, the weapons used were nuclear. NORMAN FOSTER Duxford, Cambridgeshire

# Lost in space

Sir. Adrian Berry doesn't remember his folklore very well when he says that during his 20year nap Rip Van Winkle aged only one night (Astronautical Notes, 8 April). When he came down from his mountain Rip had a long white beard and, as Special Relativity predicts, was 20 years older. This may act as a useful damper

on flights of fantasy to the stars at near-light speed from which astronauts return just a few years older, while their stay-at-home friends and relations have died hundreds of years previously in true Einsteinian fashion. Alas, it will be a while yet before large, massive objects like space ships and human beings in them achieve velocities of nearly 300,000 kilometres a second, part of the problem being that their masses will greatly increase at this speed. necessitating a complementary increase in the energy used to propel them until, at light speed, the energy required becomes

infinite. This will be a problem. There is world enough and time for humans to reach the stars, but only after many generations of the astronauts on board have lived, bred, and died of old age. No Rip Van Winkie among them will return home to claim his compound interest. RALPH ESTLING Dowlish Wake, Somerset

## Teachers' merit pay

Sir: Your two correspondents (12 April) responding to your leader Good teachers deserve to be paid more" raise perfectly legitimate questions.

The answer to D W McKaigue, questioning how a special needs teacher for severely handicapped children can be compared with a colleague who is in charge of bright A-level students, is surely through judging the skills and qualities they bring to their work. They are quite different but open equally to a positive appraisal which would enable both of them to move through the threshold.

John Scholfield quite rightly draws attention to the budgetary considerations which militate against the appointment of the best person for the job and all too often end up in the youngest and cheapest teacher being appointed. This is why NASUWT has consistently argued that the current rigid formula funding under local management of schools cannot accommodate any genuine system of merit pay whatsoever NIGEL de GRUCHY General Secretary NASUWT London WC2

#### Euro peril

Sir: Diane Coyle (Comment, 8 April) fails to address the real issues involved in economic and monetary union. The euro debate is not simply a question of whether to change the currency but of handing over the economic and ultimately the political control of this country to the European Union

She describes those campaigning to keep the pound as "elderly men with more stake in their past than in our future". The view that democracy is important and that entry into EMU will erode it deserves to be properly addressed and not trivialised.

Those who want Britain to be part of a prosperous and democratic Europe should remember that Europe and the European Union are not synonymous. The EU's fledgling currency is designed to lock us into a federation from which there is no escape. We should leave the euro zone to endure its own self-imposed economic and political straitjacket and emulate Europe's more dynamic economies, Norway and Switzerland, outside the EU JOHN BARNETT East Grinstead, West Sussex

### Royle couple

Sir: Our advice to Nick Baker ("Nicking a little kudos", 12 April), who is frustrated by the emergence of a namesake working in a similar field, is not to flee and yield your name and your identity, but to

double up and make friends. We came across each other several years ago when a magazine to which we had independently submitted short stories sent them all back to one of us. Between us we have published 20 books, but neither bookshops nor libraries distinguish between us. For all they know, the author of After Derrido is the same man who wrote The Matter of the Heart. The author of Counterparts and Telepothy and Literature was recently invited to address a conference in Finland: there is no such author.

As long as neither of us produces anything execrable, there's no problem. We've started doing readings together and a collaborative volume is in the pipeline. NICHOLAS ROYLE London W12 NICHOLAS ROYLE Stirling, Central Scotland

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### Irregular

Sir:My scores in John Walsh's "Are you a regular guy?" questionnaire (13 April) were 5 a, 5 b, 5 c and 1 pass. The total makes me out to be slightly decent, right-thinking, sussed, modern, élitist, pretentious, and 33 per cent . William Hague. Ought I to see a osvchiatrist? JOHN O'BYRNE

# High time we saw solicitors as the heroes they really are

SOLICITORS OFTEN complain that their profession is unfairly painted as drab and mean-minded, while other callings have an aura of glamour and romance.

"Even journalism comes out better than the law," said one bitterly to me. "At least Superman was a journalist in real life. Show me the solicitor who has any pretensions at all to being a hero!"

No sooner said than done. We bring you the first episode in the adventures of the man known only to his adversaries as "LEGALMAN"!

STANLEY MILLS was 5ft 9in, dressed in dark clothes which were almost but not quite a suit, and wearing spectacles that were not the pair he had bought expensively from an optician but the cheap stand-by pair he had got from below, or perhaps to a very severe

Boots when the expensive pair had gone missing. He was walking along Oxford Street on his way to the solicitor's office in Holborn where he worked, looking forward to exchanging a surreptitious "good morning" with the lovely Miss Walker who handled the conveyancing side of things, when suddenly he heard a commotion coming from a side street.

He glanced down it as he passed, and gasped. There, tottering over the top of a five-storey building, hung a stranded helicopter, seemingly about to fall. From the helicopter there dangled a long rope, with a beautiful girl clinging to the end of it. In the helicopter cabin, about to sever the rope with an axe and send the girl to her death on the pavement

bruising on the heads of the spectators below, sat a cackling, masked figure. Stanley Mills recognised him at once. It was The Infringer! "Holy search warrant! This

looks like a little job for Legalman." said Stanley Mills softly to himself. He stepped behind a phone box, opening his brief case as he did so. Seconds later, he stepped out and

launched himself into the air. He had changed. No longer was he the drab figure in dark clothes and second-division specs. Admittedly, he did still have the dark clothes and also-ran spectacles on, not to mention slightly scuffed shoes. But now he also had a red rose in his lapel button and a bowler hat worn at a rakish angle.

"it's Legalman!" gasped the crowd, as he shot through the air at a thoroughly legal 29mph.



**MILES KINGTON** 

'It's Legalman,' gasped the crowd as he flew through the air at a thoroughly legal 29mph

"Thank God Legalman is here! If anyone can sort this mess out, it's

"Good morning, Infringer," said Legalman, landing gently on the ledge beside the helicopter. "I'm sorry to see you're bringing chaos to the great metropolis again."

"But I'm delighted to see you, Legalman," chuckled the infringer. "I had hoped that this little incident might bring you out into the open. Now I've got you where I want you." "If anyone's in trouble, it's you,

Infringer," said Legalman. "I'm afraid you don't realise quite how bad the trouble is in which you are." Author's note: May I apologise for all the unnecessary dialogue? This is not my fault. It is always engineered by Legalman so that he can charge for it later under the heading of "Consultation and Advice" @ £10 per minute.

"Oh yeah? What kind of trouble, Legalman?"

"All sorts of trouble. Piloting a helicopter in an urban area contrary to the Public Flying Act, 1933. Parking a helicopter over a doubleyellow-line street. Having an axe without a permit. Dangling a rope dangerously in a public thoroughfare. Flying a helicopter without due care and attention...

"Help!" screamed the girl at the end of the rope. "Please help me!" Legalman took his specs off and looked strictly at her

"All in good time, IF you please." he said. "If you want to apply for help, please phone for an appointment and I will try to fit you in." Another scream rent the air. She lipped a little more.

"How are you going to help her now?" sneered The Infringer. "Quite simple," said Legalman. "I'm going to serve THIS on you."

And he handed over an injunction preventing The Infringer from causing any nuisance to the girl at the end of the rope, a writ for helicopter misdemeanours and several other summonses. The Infringer went pale. "You've lost none of your old powers, Legalman," he said.

At that moment the girl lost her grip and fell screaming. In an instant Legalman had taken off and

swooped beside her as she fell. "I wonder if you've made a will yet?" he said in her ear. "Many people think there's all the time in the world, yet, did you know, more than 80 per cent of people die intestate?"

Will she die? Or will he save her? And can she afford the paperwork if he does? Another episode in the saga of the solicitor superhero, Legalman, coming soon!

WEDNESDAY REVIEW The Independent is April

Teachers' merit

Sir. Your two corresponding to April: responding to your last market before the total and the corresponding to the corresponding to the corresponding perfectly legitime.

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Sir Pane Coyle (Comment)

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# \*\*THE INDEPENDENT

I CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHARE, LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171 345 2435 THE INDEPENDENT ON THE INTERNET: WWW.INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

# teacher for severely handler, children can be compared by collegate who is in charge the corresponding to their work. They are produced to their work in the produced children; but open equally be considered by the considered by Will anyone provide work for redundant Clyde shipbuilders?

TWO MERCHANT shipyards are to close on the Clyde cue a bagpipe lament on the decline of the Scottish shipbuilding industry. But is there anything that can be done about the decision by Kvaerner, the Norwegian construction group, to sell its interest in Govan and Clydebank, other than hair-pulling and clothes-rending?

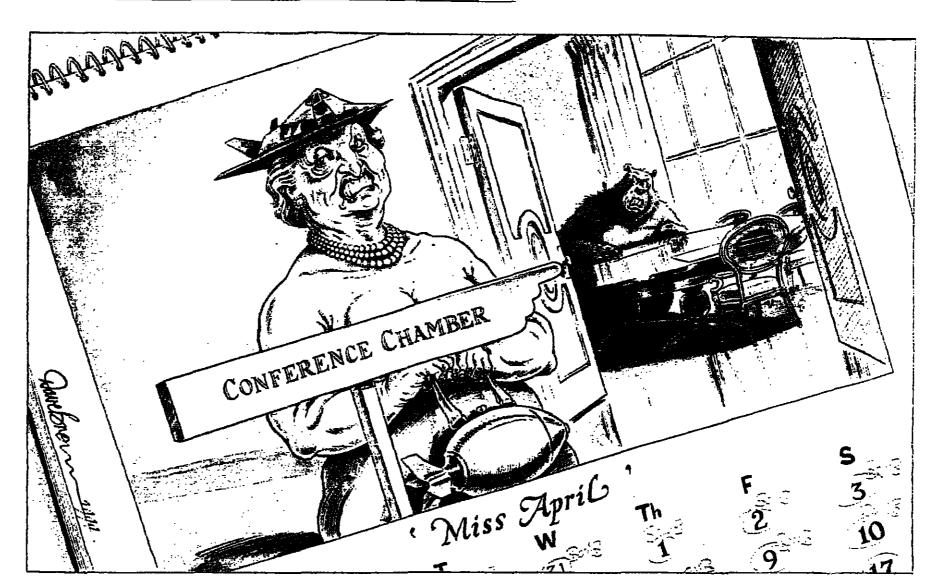
There has been talk of finding a buyer for the two shipyards. Unfortunately, that seems like a dim prospect. Owning British shipyards amounts to dropping sacks of cash straight into the sea. Wages are too high for jobs that can be done just as well in India or Indonesia.

Nor does there seem to be an alternative to the disciplines of the market. Any manufacturing business that fails to generate a profit will always be operating with a sword of Damocles hanging over its head. Government intervention by way of subsidies can be sensible only as a temporary expedient. The fantastically complicated European Union rules on subsidies allow governments to provide hand-outs here and there, as long as they do not become provocatively obvious. It makes sense to be flexible about bail-outs, but in the end there is little point in throwing good money after bad.

This is not to say that every effort should not be made on behalf of the 2,000 workers who will be losing their jobs. As long as capital is more mobile than labour, there will be an imbalance of power at the heart of capitalism. The decision to sell the Scottish yards comes as part of a worldwide review of Kvaerner's business, in which some 25,000 workers will lose their jobs. It is therefore unlikely that the Clydeside shipbuilders will be able to get other jobs within the company. Furthermore, as straight-talking ship workers they are unlikely to fit cosily into the booming service sector and its telephone call centres staffed by sweettalking twentysomethings.

The Government has reneged on promises that the Labour party made in opposition to enact legislation to stop discrimination against older workers. At the same time, the so-called New Deal (a travesty of Roosevelt's struggle to pull the US out of the Depression) has done little for the over-fifties. If the Government is to endorse the line of Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, that the end of British manufacturing industry is inevitable and desirable, it must provide older workers with some alternative to The Oprah Winfrey Show and a pint of heavy.

The forthcoming Scottish parliament has the opportunity to develop an industrial policy that copes with some of these problems. Manufacturing industry will have to remain a large part of the Scottish economy. Without expensive and sustained retraining, 5 million Scots cannot yet live on the proceeds of microchip factories and the service sector



# At last, a chance for democracy in Algeria

TOMORROW ALGERIA holds its first elections since 1992, when the army overturned the victory of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS). There is little chance that the vote will be free and fair - not least because the FIS is not allowed to field candidates. But the election of a successor to President Liamine Zeroual is a step towards the resumption of democratic politics in a country recovering from seven years of civil war.

Abdelaziz Bouteflika, an Algerian foreign minister in the Seventies, is almost certain to win the election. He is backed by both the National Liberation Front - which led the opposition to French colonialism - and, more importantly, by the generals, who are the country's real rulers.

The 680,000 Algerian voters resident in France have been

able to vote since Saturday. In Algeria there is a worry about vote-rigging, because vulnerable mobile ballot boxes are to be used in rural areas and soldiers will vote unseen in their barracks. None the less, the country's 15 million eligible voters will have a genuine choice of candidates.

Mr Bouteflika's opponents include three who are credible challengers. They are Mouloud Hamrouche, the reformist prime minister from 1989 to 1991; Hocine Ait Ahmed, the 78-year-old socialist with a reputation for incorruptibility and the charisma conferred by his membership of les neuf historiques, the nine original leaders of the independence war, and, the most interesting challenger, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, the former foreign minister who has been backed by the leaders of the FIS in hiding abroad.

The army's cancellation of the 1992 election was not only the catalyst for the civil war, it was also taken by Islamic movements across the Arab world to show that democracy was a sham and that there was no alternative to violence.

ity forces on the one side and Islamic groups, including the FIS and the shadowy Armed Islamic Group, on the other. The crisis reached its nadir during the holy month of Ramadan last year when it was rumoured that security forces were massacring civilians.

Seven years and the murder of 77,000 people later, the government appears to have brought the country back under its control. The army is no longer involved in terror, and massacres committed by the Islamists have diminished in frequency and are confined to rural areas.

The FIS may have miscalculated in backing Mr Ibrahimi. If he does not gain much support - and there are signs that voters are apathetic - the FIS will look like a busted flush. If he does well, the army may use it as another excuse for suppressing democracy. Although there are grounds for pessimism about the outcome of the elections, in a country trying to cope with a dramatically rising population and the collapse of oil revenues, democracy is the only hope The Algerian conflict was primarily between the secur- for a resumption of stability and prosperity.

# Scotland will be the first skirmish in the battle for Britishness

an angular between as Forder Know they that the letter the same man to so unite The AS IT sometimes is when dreams The slither threaten to come true, the unfulfilled desire suddenly seems a lot more reassuring than the real thing. Perhaps that is why Scottish nationalism is gets to any real power.

Six months ago, there were fears Cherry of C. Control Westersalis in New Labour that the SNP could run it close for dominance of the Parliament. At the head of the campaign. Donald Dewar and Helen Liddell were lacklustre and defensive. The best of the young Blairite stormtroopers from Millbank were inventive at finding any excuse for not being seconded to the Labour Party's colonial outpost of Keir Hardie House.

The SNP's leader, Alex Salmond,

was motoring along nicely until he South Teacher Wilder Section 1 Section 1 Section 1 decided to change up a gear and denounce Nato's involvement in Kosovo. Given that the SNP has sought to avoid outright calls for San Control of the Co Scottish independence during the campaign, it was an odd decision to stake the SNP's authority on foreign affairs, an area where its voice would truly decisive only once it had already attained separation from Westminster A poli slump followed, forcing Mr Salmond to concede that he had merely "spoken my mind". This is the last defence of politicians who know they have said too much and have no option but to resort to echoing Martin Luther's cry: "Here I stand, I can do no other." Luther wasn't in the middle of an election

By opting against the Chancellor's in income tax cut and entering a row about tax cuts with Lahour Management and the time.

Salmond also repositioned the SNP as a nationalist party that has decided to be socialist until the day of glory arrives. That is a very confusing message and may well serve to shift SNP support into a left-wing niche, whereas a really persuasive democratic nationalism needs to develop its appeal right across the political spectrum.

Major ideological battles, such as the constitutional future of the UK. bear out Lenin's crude but convincing theory of power - that the group of people that will win is that which has a clear idea of where it wants to go. Numbers do not much matter. A small but dedicated band - be they of Communist revolutionaries in the dying days of the First World War in Russia or Blairites in the Labour Party of the early Nineties - can force through their vision, because no one else has an alternative coherent

enough to set against it. The SNP - having started with this advantage of a single, understandable goal - has allowed its aims to become fuzzy by venturing into other minefields. New Labour, by contrast, started out with a bleary idea of what would follow devolution and a certain fearfulness in its approach to Scotland. It was unsure about how often the Prime Minister should appear in Scotland during the campaign; the perception of the campaign being orchestrated by London might play to nationalist accusations of meddling. Yet Mr Blair was anxious not to feed



# **MCELVOY**

Alex Salmond was motoring along nicely until he decided to denounce Nato's involvement in Kosovo

Mr Blair has the perfect excuse to limit his forays north of the Border. He will probably go just once between now and the vote on 6 May.

The absence of the Prime Minister is doing no harm, Indeed, it has allowed Mr Dewar to show that he is not just Westminster-man on loan although he is careful to preach an insistent gospel of brotherhood and

harmony with London. Scottish New Labour has a strong communitarian emphasis on fighting poverty and on the transfer of sporting estates to communal ownership. Indeed, catching the non-conformist whiff of the Parliament manifesto, the mischievous thought occurs: why not about tax cuts with Labour, Mr in Kosovo cut through the dilemma—

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Information Bill, which the Government has no intention of delivering to

True, news from the Norwegian owners Kyaerner of the planned closure of the last of the big merchant shipyards on the Clyde is hardly guaranteed to have Glasgow voters breaking out in a chorus of "Things. Can Only Get Better". But the fate of the remaining shipyards would be precarious no matter who ruled Scotland. Should Govan take its revenge at the next general election and vote SNP the Labour party will hardly be inconsolable to see the back of its sitting MP one Mohammed Sarwar. If there are questions to be asked about Govan and Clydebank, they are about regional development policies that allow injections of public money (in this case £87m), after which the company can walk away at the drop of a restructuring plan. The costeffectiveness of these publicly funded sweeteners demands far closer scrutiny than any government has given them

The adaptation of New Labour to a more Scottish identity requires balance, and it is no accident, as the Leninists would add, that later this week Gordon Brown is to restate Labour's commitment to the principle of the Union in a major speech on Britishness. From the thickets of confusion, a new theme is beginning to emerge. The Government has seen that it must stand up for the Union. or risk the steady incursions of English and Scottish nationalism.

Britishness is the context in which the Scottish and Welsh devolutions believe that it is not worth fighting.

belong, and in which they can thrive. The alternative to the Government taking the lead in defining what a UK identity means in post-devolutionary times is allowing others with opposing interests to make the running. Mr Salmond may not be making a roaring success of this campaign, but his party will gain in confidence and experience from its exposure in the Parliament. It will challenge the settlement again next time, and the time after that - a border skirmish New Labour will have to fight repeatedly. The potential for separatist movements to reinvent themselves in different conditions is the core of

their strength. It is ominous that a growing sector of English right-wing opinion believes that the battle is already lost. The case for formal divorce between the English and the Scots is most elegantly made in an intriguing polemic by the journalist Simon Heffer, entitled Nor Shall Mu Sword The Reinvention of England. Mr Heffer thinks that the English should speed the Scots' path to independence, having nothing to lose thereby but their onerous fiscal transfers. Rid of the whinging Scots, England will be free to develop a humane nationalism, cut taxes and

even bring back the Tories. On the benefits of this last point and the likely lovability of an Albion stripped of its anchorage in the United Kingdom. I beg to differ with Mr Heffer. His England would not be mine. But his argument should put the rest of us on our mettle. The sure way to lose the battle for Britishness is to

law. The financial penalties IN CASE we had forgotten what

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Ah! Ta ta ta ta ta. That's all I have to say." Paula Jones, on Bill Clinton being held in contempt of court for lying in her sexual harassment case

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Extreme remedies are most appropriate for extreme diseases. Hippocrates, Greek physician

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A like which is a second specific to the seco That is his shame to bear - and all America's, too.

New York Post

WRIGHT FOUND Clinton in civil contempt of court. The second president to be impeached becomes the first to be so cited. The monetary penalty attached to the contempt ruling includes payment to Jones for attorneys' fees and similar expenses arising out of Clinton's "willful failure" to give honest answers in his deposition. Clinton, a lawyer, could be disbarred under a capon prohibiting "dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation". It has long

# **MONITOR**

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

The American press comments on the ruling which finds Clinton in contempt of court

been obvious that his deposition in the Jones suit, in which he swore "I have never had sexual relations with Monica Lewinsky", was a lie. LA Times

JUDGE WEBBER Wright's rul ing puts into the legal and historical record that Clinton was untruthful and deliberately misleading, and assigns a legal

calling for the President to reimburse the court \$1,202 to the judge in travelling to Washington to preside over "his tainted deposition", and to pay Ms Jones any expenses incurred because of his untruthful behaviour are symbolic. He would be wise not to challenge them. The Judge has signalled her desire to bring this matter to a close. New York Times

justice was, a judge in Little Rock reminded the country cover the expenses incurred by yesterday. Judge Wright held Clinton in contempt of court for not testifying truthfully. President or no president, there are apparently some things Judge Wright is not going to put up with in ner court. It was electrifying, it was galvanizing, to be reminded that there is still law, there is still truth, there is still justice.

sanction to uphold the rule of Arkansas Democrat Gazette AN

boa:

# **PANDORA**

TOP SPIN. The GM food innovator Monsanto showed its customary fingertip control of the media when its PR flacks heard of a story perceived as dangerous. The corporation manufactures a genetically engineered milk hormone called rBGH (recombinant bovine growth hormone). Farmers inject rBGH into cattle every two weeks to increase milk production. But activists have expressed concern that rBGH may increase the risk of cancer among consumers. Two Tampa-based journalists taped a segment reporting this. Monsanto pitched its side of the story - and management at WTVT, the local Fox station, made the duo rewrite the story 83 times. That's right, 83. The Murdoch-owned WTVT then offered Steve Wilson and Jane Akre some £100,000 to quit on condition that both reporters remain silent about the incident. They refused and the matter is now heading to court. Fascinating fact: later this year the EU moratorium on the use of rBGH is up for review.

BANKING TECHNOLOGY rocks! Thirty per cent of those entrusted with increasing credit-card security have forged someone else's signature in a credit-card transaction. An NCR survey at Frankfurt's European **Financial Services Summit** also revealed that 23 per cent of the fraud-busters had asked a friend to forge theirs. Life in plastic, it's fantastic.

OH, AND you've got to hand it to Barbie. Prosthetic specialists at Northern Carolina's Duke University are using the doll's legs to create artificial fingers for amputees. The legs are trimmed to fit each patient they work successfully because the flexible joints in Barbie's legs allow

the fingers to bend. MINNIE DRIVER (pictured) put the hype about Martine McCutcheon perspective at the party for An Ideal Husband this week. As the ex-EastEnder appeared at the star's table at the Waldorf Hotel. photographers pestered Driver to have ber picture taken McCutcheon, A

MICK HUCKNALL is said to be

baffled Minnie

replied: "Who?"

offering his support to help the falling star Simon Le Bon rekindle his career. Lucky old Simon. It's enough to drive you to the opera - if they ever get it open again.

**BORIS YELTSIN talks war** but wants peace - in his private life, at least. He's reportedly bought a serene £53m villa in Cap d'Antibes.

CHRISSIE HYNDE, the fiery rocker and animal rights activist, narrowly avoided questioning by the gendarmerie this week. Hynde, a driving force behind the memorial concert for her pal Linda McCartney. exploded when she arrived at Home House, a smart West End club known for the hollowed-out elephant leg in its lobby, which is used as an umbrella stand. "This is part of a dead animal," Hynde told a crowd that included George Michael, Tom Jones and Sinéad O'Connor. "I'm going to bury it in Portman Square." She emptied out the umbreilas, and headed for the exit - but found her path blocked by security men. The situation was resolved after a tense 20-minute stand-off. No word from Home House about whether they'll go out on a limb with exotic furnishings

WE INTERRUPT this column with a newsbreak. Derek Draper, of Lobbygate fame, has been fired by Talk Radio. Apparently be telephoned another show on air from Amsterdam in the company of a delightful working girl called Claudia. Has Talk Radio's boss Kelvin MacKenzie, no stranger to the sexier side of journalism, lost his sense of humour? Say it ain't so, Kelv.

in future.

OUR NUMBER one guy's number one chick likes to keep busy. Mother... lawyer... consort how does Cherie find

enough hours in

the day? So who

better to speak at the 15 May Lawyer organised by Blair Communications (no relation. assured). Blair tises the

'stress

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blissful contrast to

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zone". A

# Don't ask me to ape Cherie or Linda Wha

AFTER RELIGION, politics and fame, the biggest peddler of hypocrisy, deceit and myths has got to be the creation to which today's woman is allegedly incurably addicted: the role model. It is the RSJ of the daft conviction that the chosen few among us are Having It All. These few are supposedly fulfilled in work, family, sex life, love, friendship and wealth without so much as a bruise to relationships, integrity. leisure and sanity. In short, they achieve the impossible.

The role model has become a modern-day goddess to be wor-shipped and admired and emulated. Except that where she has magical powers (also known as housekeepers, nannies, fitness trainers, plus a PR machine that knows a hundred ways of disguising from the outside world - until the price is right crumbling marriages, resentful children, work half-done and periodic depression), the rest of us have only ourselves to fall back on.

We fail (and blame ourselves) but we expect only a continuum of coping from the best of the RMs. So it's all the more dangerous when a role model-cum-goddess proves to raise money for the support it gives



**ROBERTS** It's dangerous when a

role model-cum-goddess proves to be just as mortal as the rest of us

be just as mortal as the rest of us. In yesterday's Daily Mail, Cherie Booth, promoted as a role model (more dutiful wife than overstressed career woman) by Labour's spin masters, wrote as patron of the charity Breast Cancer Care, about Linda McCartney. The charity is selling one of her photographs. Stallion and Standing Stone, to

Cherie Booth says of Linda McCartney, "Nearly everyone... reflected on what a strong role model she was, not only as a wife and mother, but also as an original creative woman." And she adds, "Many also admitted to the terrible anxieties that her death had triggered in them. A common theme of their letters was, 'if Linda McCartney can't beat breast cancer, what hope have I got?""

Linda McCartney's death was tragic, as are the deaths of even younger women, among them the journalist Ruth Picardie, who wrote so movingly about her anger and sorrow at leaving very young child-ren. We can admire Ruth without transforming her into a role model. What drew many of us was not that she embodied an illusion of perfection but that she was heart-breakingly human; just like us. Everybody hoped, but few truly expected her to win the battle. Role models, in contrast, are required to have an illogical, near-mystical ability not only to live life in the round but also to defy premature death.

Mythology surrounds our role

models like wrapping around an Easter egg - there's a lot of it, and it doesn't amount to much when examined with a clear eye. It doesn't lessen the courage of Linda Mc-Cartney to say that she was a woman with a sound marriage who was a good enough mother, loved animals, took OK photographs and couldn't sing, but seemed to know how to make the best of life. Vegetarianism didn't grant immunity but it did provide her with a healthy income from her products. If the image-makers hadn't determined to turn her into a role model (not least as a boost to sales of soya sausages), cancer patients wouldn't now be feeling defeated and in de-spair because Linda lacked what they believed she had to possess: the

luck of the gods. A few years ago, I met a woman who was successful in the City, wrote novels, and had two children. How did she squeeze it all in? She explained that she spent a couple of hours a day writing in office time. She couldn't tell the truth in interviews because that would reveal to her bosses that she was shortchanging them. A year or so later, had become involved in drugs and her marriage was under strain Profiles, interviews continued to appear, buffing up her image as the one who Had It All. In her wake, no doubt, dozens of gullible women (and, yes, we all need to read between the lines a little more adeptly), rise at 5am to write the novel before an over-long day's work, returning too late to read a bedfime story, before sinking exhausted into bed repeating the mantra, "If she can do it, so can I." The truth is, she can't, without a price to be paid. Every choice has a consequence.

Women, in the main, carry the burden of balancing work and home so they are hungrier than men for mentors. Even so, they should become more like men - admire a person's individual actions without nursing illusions about the success of an overall life, setting impossible standards to attain. In short, treat role models as fairy stories for grown-ups. Then, as with the death of Linda McCartney, it wouldn't come as quite such a devastating shock for some when the happy ending is, sadly, sometimes denied.

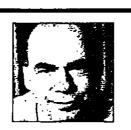
# The road to a diplomatic settlement with Serbia

IS THERE a way of bringing this war to a quick conclusion? Any early solution depends on diplomacy, yet no serious negotiating process has begun and there is no obvious interlocutor. Belgrade is suspicious of the UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, because he has associated himself with the core Nato demands, while Nato is wary of the Russian Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov because of his readiness to play to anti-Western sentiment at home.

Once talks begin, they will not be easy. Nato will probably have little choice but to stick with the Rambouillet formula on autonomy but, in practice, Kosovo can never again be more than a notional part of Serbia. The scale of post-war reconstruction and the provision of security for returning refugees will mean that it must be in effect a Nato protectorate. whatever face-saving form of words may be found.

The main feature of any settlement must be that Western troops are based in Kosovo. This is the single point on which Nato cannot equivocate. The only serious solution to the mounting refugee crises in Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania is for people to return to what is left of their homes, but they cannot, dare not, venture back until their security is guaranteed against Serb troops and militias. If the alliance is unable to achieve this, then it will have been defeated.

This was the issue on which it went to war in the first place and on which the Rambouillet talks foundered. President Slobodan Milosevic rejected all entreaties to accept an armed international force in the province to reassure the people; it was essential to his strategy that they be insecure. So far, despite Nato claims of cracks opening up in the Yugoslav government, there has been absolutely no sign of a shift in its position. Once the concession is



### LAWRENCE FREEDMAN

Nato has been left over-dependent on

coercion to bring this war to an early conclusion

made, however it is dressed up politically or diluted by the inclusion of Russian and Ukrainian troops, Serbia has been defeated. Serbs in Kosovo will also be uncomfortably aware of the grim revelations likely to emerge once their behaviour can be properly scrutinised.

The only possible compromise would be effective partition of Kosovo. If this is proposed by Belgrade, some in Nato might be tempted to accept. But it would be impossible to get Kosovar agreement to such a move. This would create a continuing source of tension, with Serbia fearing Kosovar attempts to seize back any land taken from them. So we must therefore be clear that the main purpose of diplomacy will be to ease the pain and humiliation of defeat for one side.

Victory probably will come to Nato, but it will have come at a heavy price, the result of a flawed strategy that allowed Milosevic to seize the initiative at the start of the campaign. As Nato's air strikes began last month, the Yugoslav decisions they were designed to influence had al-

they were supposed to frustrate were well advanced. Success now for Nato requires reversing the tragedy it failed to prevent. It has ruled out the only sure way of achieving this a land invasion to wrest the territory from Serb control. This is because of a fear of heavy casualties, the treachery of the terrain and the lack of a decent transport network making it difficult to get heavy armour to the front. Although Nato's land power in the area is slowly being reinforced, largely to deal with the refugee crisis, it would take weeks to assemble and train a proper invasion force. Even the introduction of US ground-attack helicopters has been delayed because of the primitive state of Albanian facilities.

So Nato has been left waging war against Yugoslavia's military infrastructure in the hope of persuading Milosevic to admit defeat. The targets in Serbia are described as being military in nature, and they are certainly chosen - and advertised in advance - to avoid excessive casualties, but their impact is also civilian. Nato can continue to work its way through the Yugoslav air force and barracks, but in this bizarre modern warfare they are not immediately relevant to the problem at hand. The attacks on fuel, factories and bridges are another matter. They are steadily ruining the already shaky Yugoslav economy. This is undoubtedly putting pressure on Milosevic to find an escape route, but there are no obvious manifestations of anti-war feeling. If anything, nationalist sentiment has hardened. As the inadvertent air attack on a train on Monday illustrated, there are limits to the number of civil/military targets that can be struck without harming civilians. Although Nato's current tactics do leave many people uncomfortable. the Serbs are paying ready been taken and the plans a heavy political price for the success



Igor Ivanov and Madeleine Albright

of their Kosovo campaign. The tide hope that somehow, through threats European opinion against Yugoslavia and created a level of commitment within the Nato nations that will be difficult to undermine. It is too late for Nato to conduct the air war over Kosovo to impede "ethnic cleansing", but it can create the conditions for the refugees' return. This requires depleting the fuel and ammunition stocks of the local Serb units, isolating them from Serbia so that they cannot be reinforced or resupplied, disrupting their command and control networks, obstructing their attempts to move by knocking down bridges and keeping them vulnerable to attack by constant daylight air patrols. This may release Nato from its dependence upon Milosevic's consent by returning refugees with an armed Nato guard. There are here at least the components of a plan that could bring this war to a conclusion on Nato's terms.

When this is coupled with the economic costs of the war, the outlook for Milosevic is therefore grim. His The author is professor of war regime appears to be clinging to the

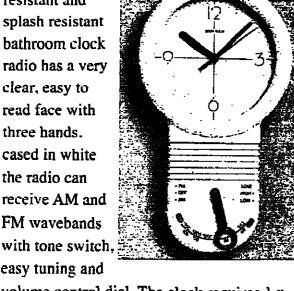
of human misery it created hardened or aid, Russia can extract them from the mess, but they have taken statements from Moscow far too literally. Milosevic himself is experienced enough to know just how little is on offer. The most useful role Russia could now play would be to dispel any wishful thinking in Belgrade (thereby also making themselves more acceptable to Nato in any future attempt to broker a deal).

The failure to prepare for a land option has left Nato over-dependent upon coercion to bring this war to an early conclusion. This can work only by persuading Belgrade that the costs of further resistance are much higher than the costs of compliance with Nato's core demands. There is absolutely no way of predicting when this conclusion will be reached or if it will ever be reached at all. It is, however, most likely to come when Milosevic is convinced that Nato forces will eventually enter Kosovo without his consent.

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# A lesson in the politics of love

IN "NO Second Troy". Yeats contemplates the woman he was to love all his life, from a necessary distance. The lady isn't named in the poem but everyone knew in 1910 that it was Maud Gonne, the political activist who turned down Yeats's proposal of marriage.

In the poem, the apolitical heart is transfixed when it encounters the fact that the loved woman is herself political. Thus - at least for the poet - the root of the matter may appear to be pre-political: Yeats detests violence, loves Maud Gonne; but Maud Gonne is violent.

"Why should I blame her that she filled my days/ With misery, or that she would of late/ Have taught to ignorant men most violent ways,/ Or hurled the little streets upon the great/ Had they but courage equal to desire?/ What could have made her peaceful with a mind/ That nobleness made simple as a fire/ With beauty like a tightened bow, a kind/That is not natural in an age like this/Being high and solitary and most stern?/ Why. what could she have done, being what she is?/ Was there another Troy for her to burn?"

The process is, I take it, as follows. First: "Why should I blame her for filling my days with misery?" So far, indeed, we have a question that virtually invites a sceptical response. What better reason could a person have for resentment?

But the succeeding suggestion, which follows swiftly, is that self-pity is an ignoble emotion and of course we pull back at once; we do not wish to be trapped into endorsing it. Then, as the sentence

moves from the personal plane to the political, we begin to see that the poet is not after all playing a trivial game; the lady has made him wretched and meanwhile, has stirred up revolutions, poor against rich.

If the personal misery seems a puny thing, the sentence implies, then let it be so; something larger is in any case afoot here. With Yeats's poem, it is of the essence of the work that it does not present a marriage of true minds. The poet must so speak to establish his own unsympathising character before he allows the lady her proper transcendence. That is why, when the reference shifts to politics, the tone is tetchily personal, half-comprehending.



**PODIUM** A D NUTTALL

From the Oxford English Professor's Warton lecture at the British Academy

indeed, unsympathetic. Maud Gonne and Yeats both loved Ireland but her love was programmatic, future-orientated while his was backwardlooking, enamoured of custom and ceremony. We may add that Yeats obviously got a further kick out of the exhilarating rebarbativeness of reactionary, hierarchical views. The poet's contempt for the ignorant poor is there on the page, with no at-

tempt to palliate or conceal it. The same contempt blazes in a harsh two-line poem: "Par-nell came down the road, he said to a cheering man:/ Treland shall get her freedom and you still break stone." The crushing effect of the

measured, spondaic prophecy coming from the great revolutionary himself is to turn the "cheering man" of the preceding line into an arrested grotesque like something in Picasso's Guernico.

The same tic of contempt shows in the line: "Had they but courage equal to desire?" Yeats pulls off a curious technical feat here. He is saying what he really thinks and is speaking "in character", as if to say: "These are the things

people like me will always say". Meanwhile, the lines are there to be at once blotted out by the lady herself, and - in so far as she is the Unanswerable Positive of the poem - the conservative suggestion must be negated, which is as much as to say rendered, after all, apolitical. Hence the appropriateness of an element of primitive defamiliarisation in "Hurled the little streets upon the great". It is as if the sophisticated political meaning "caused the lower classes to

rise in violent struggle with the upper classes" is engulfed by a child's surrealism: houses fighting houses. The next lines show how

there is no irony in the poet's public decision not to resent her treatment of him. Yeats alone of 20th-century poets could unleash, when he chose, authentic, over-mastering high style, which carries all before it. He does so here.

"What could have made her peaceful with a mind/ That nobleness made simple as a fire./ With beauty like a tightened bow, a kind/That is not natural in an age like this./ Being high and solitary and most stern?"

This is intended to transcend all that has gone before, and it does just that. The poet's own thoughts are erased by an intuition of splendour that is identical with love. It is not so much that criticism dies away before the image of the lady herself, the very disclaiming of the right to criticise dies, becomes irrelevant to the contemplated wonder. The lady is not of our age, not of our kind perhaps; she is like fire from the sky, wholly

# Albania helpless in face of aggressor

**INVASION** 

DURING HIS tyrannical reign much of the hardware dates

over Albania, the Maoist dictator Enver Hoxha built almost one million concrete pillboxes to defend his country and unify its downtrodden people against invasions that he knew would never happen. Like Slobodan Milosevic, he realised that there was nothing to compare with the threat of war to marshal a country's people behind its leader.

The crumbling bunkers still litter the countryside, pointing comically in all directions like pale mushrooms, which are a constant reminder of the futility of Hoxha's rule.

Finally, vesterday someone did invade. Serbian infantry took the border post at Kamenica and torched two towns. And the pillboxes, used for decades as toilets and mangers, proved to be just as useless as Hoxha had always known they would be.

Such helplessness in the face of aggression is one of the reasons the Albanian government last week invited Nato to take over its sea and air ports. Even before the civil unrest of 1997 which brought down the government of Dr Sali Berisha. Albania's military was somewhat toothless. After, when military arsenals had been littered by angry civilians (and sold on to the Kosovo Liberation Army), it was positively

According to the latest publicly available figures, Albania's rag-tag army boasts 859 battle tanks, 103 armoured personnel carriers and 823 artillery pieces. The Navy has one submarine and 31 patrol boats, and the Air Force has 98 combat aircraft. What the figfrom the 1960s, is Chinese-built and would not look out of place in a military museum.

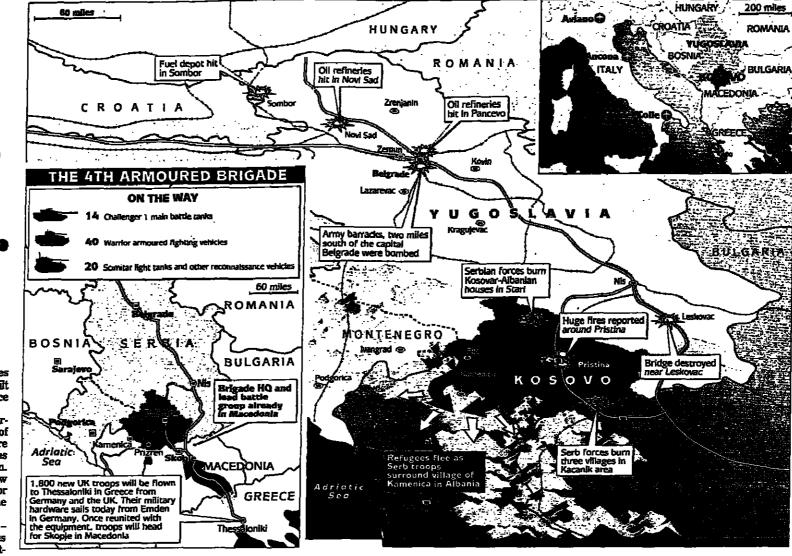
So when news of the incursion reached the people of Tirana, where in the past there would have been fear, there was only anger and indignation. After all, Albania is now becoming Nato's launch pad for any ground action against the Serbs in Kosovo.

"The Serbs are cowards they would never dare attack us now we are with Nato" said Tatjana Muka, 35, a shoe shop assistant. "I hate the Serbs and in the past. I would have been scared they would have invaded all the way. But not now."

Yesterday, evidence of Albania's status at Nato's new forward base was beginning to emerge at Durres, the country's main seaport, and at Tirana airport, where a military build-up is gathering pace in tandem with the aid effort.

Until recently, Autum Daniels from Seattle had no idea where Albania was, much less Kosovo. But here she was, standing in the airport mud, a tiny figure carrying an M60 sub-machine-gun almost as big as she was. "I'm here for the people," she said. "I've seen the nictures of babies crying and families being forced out of their homes and I don't like it. Of course, we've all talked about more serious conflicts. but that's not why we're here right now." All around Airman Daniels, other American, French, Greek, Turkish and Dutch soldiers were busy doing their bit to feed 600,000 in

camps all over the region. But with the presence of "Operation Hawk" personnel



rival of Apache attack helicopters from America, one could not help feeling that a beach-head was being created for the arrival of less humanitarian equipment, Last Friday, Durres, west of Tirana, was a sleepy harbour for ferries to and

from Italy. Yesterday, huge French troop carriers were there, disgorging hundreds of soldiers. Medecins San Frontieres, the medical charity, has been complaining for some time that the use of Nato troops at refugee camps, while Nato is bombing Yugoslavia, is compromising the camps' status as neutral places of safety At Tirana airport, the lines

appeared more blurred than ever. Operating around the clock, its single airstrip had been taking up to 60 transporter planes a day. American C-17 Globemasters and C-130 Hercules from Ramstein in Germany accounted for twothirds of the flights, the rest being operated from other Nato

is distributed by a fleet of 30 helicopters, including US Navy Sea Stallions and Dutch and Greek H-46 twin-rotor aircraft. An Albanian by one of the Hoxha pillboxes that proved no use yesterday Petr Josek

The effort and organisation involved is staggering. Many countries are participating, but this is mainly America's show. And other military equipment

Almost 500 US military personnel are already on the base, building Mash-style tents.

radar and communication systems. They have taken over air traffic control and logistics on the ground. US service personnel have worked unstintingly in cold, wet conditions, and they are rightly proud of their ments. But the structures being set in place smack

of permanence rather than a swift swoop into an improving are delighting the Albanians. who believe their reward will be new roads, airports, communiprovements and regional stature. "We have blown it twice

before, allying ourselves with Russia and then with China," said Major Vladimir Avdia, an Albanian MiG-19 fighter pilot. "But now it's Nato. We are sharing our facilities now and later we will be given help to improve our infrastructure. It is wonderful for morale."

As news spread of yesterday's incursions into Albanian, the Albanians were more sure than ever that their new partnership was a positive step forward. For Nato's part, it knows that if there were to be a ground war here would be a good place to land troops. We already have an advanced team conducting sur-

veys for the arrival of the Apache helicopters" said Master Sergeant Michael Land, one of the USAF's spokesmen. "Certainly, in the event of an escalation in activity, this airfield would become a very important centre militarily." It remains to be seen jus

how big the tiny, muddy airfield outside Tirana will grow over the next few months. In a few years, perhaps, it may even have its own bowling alley and a bar serving Budweiser and

### TIMETABLE: Days 20, 21

Monday 12 April Som: Air raid sirens sound in Belgrade, Nis, Kragujevac and Podgorica. 9pm: Yugoslav news agency Tanjug says third civilian has died in hospital after a Nato missile hit a car on the road between Pristina and Kosovo Polje earlier in the afternoon.

Tuesday 13 April 1.15-1.30am: Four big explosions heard in Pristina.

2.30am: Three huge

explosions shake eastern Beigrade close to city centre. Tanjug says the military barracks Vasa Carapic in Belgrade's Banjica district were hit. **6.35am:** Air raid alert in Belgrade ends. 8.45am: Nato planes hit a Yugoslav army barracks and fuel tanker trucks in Pristina. 9am: Madeleine Albright meets Russlan Foreign Minister, Igor Ivanov, to encourage Russia back into the search for peace in

Kosovo. Midday: Italian news agency reports Serbian forces have crossed the Yugoslav-Albanian border and occupied the northern Albanian village of Padesh. 1pm: Australian Foreign Minister, Alexander Downer, says he has been informed by Yugoslav Foreign Ministry that Australian aid workers will be charged with spying. 3.30pm: Serb forces withdraw from Albanian

territory after surrounding the northern village of Kamenica and exchanging fire with Albanian border guards for several hours. 3.30pm: Yugoslav Foreign Ministry denies allegations that Serb forces entered Albania. 3.40pm: Blair says Britain will send extra 1,800 troops to help the humanitarian effort. Spm: Nato says that Slobodan Milosevic now has 23 battalion-size units in Kosovo.

# Serb incursion is a sharp taste Extra troops could of how war could engulf region spearhead invasion

THE YUGOSLAV army's incursion into Albania yesterday of fers an alarming, albeit brief, taste of how the Kosovo war could quickly engulf neighbouring countries — and bring Serb ground forces into the direct proximity of an everincreasing number of Nato troops. But it was neither surprising nor, given the way this war is developing, especially outrageous.

The deeper fear, that the raid could presage a wider Serb invasion of Albania, for the moment seems unfounded. After three weeks of aerial pounding, the Serb army almost certainly has neither the fuel nor the supplies for such an exercise. To invade, moreover, would bring its tanks and artillery out into the open. ex- the highly mobile guerrilla war posing it at last to attack by frustrated Nato pilots. But match for the artillery and arepisodes like that of yesterday are almost certain to recur.

Ever since its armed insurgency first became a factor in in yesterday's operation, which

# ANALYSIS

the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) has enjoyed bases and logistic support across the rugged frontier of Northern Albania, Even a year ago, Serb forces were carrying out 'hot oursuit' cross-border raids to strike at these strongholds and disrupt supply lines. For their part, the KLA was

drawing on the rich source of light weapons constituted by stocks plundered when the central Albanian state selfdestructed amid the chaos following the colossal financial scandal of 1997, which cut the country's wealth in half.

But these weapons, ideal for waged by the KLA, were no mour of the Yugoslav army. So it seems to have proved in the five days' fighting culminating e crisis some 14 months ago, saw the brief capture and par-

first time - the involvement of Albanian army units as well as border police. In the past, the Albanian army proper has stayed a few miles inland from the border, precisely to avoid "provocations" which could escalate into a full-scale confrontation with the vastly superior Serb forces. This time the scale of the incursion, and the threat to the country's territorial integrity plainly left

them no choice. about it. Even before the virtual it the armed forces - two years ago, the country was the poorest in Europe, with a per capita GDP of under \$4,000 (£2,500). Since then a fragile stability has been restored under the Prime Minister, Pandeli Majko. But refugees on its territory. But the

tial burning of a village half a tribal factors mean the gov-mile into Albania, and - for the erament's writ barely runs to ernment's writ barely runs to the north of the country; and even if it did. the army's strength is reckoned to be 10,000 at hest compared with the estimated 40,000-strong Yugoslav army and Serb security forces in and around Kosovo. If Tirana wants military protection, it will have to look to Nato for it - indeed that is precisely what is happening.
After last weekend's an-

nouncement that Albania's entire military infrastructure, But there is precious little such as it is, is being placed that Albania on its own can do under the control of the alliance, the country is in reality collapse of its state - and with little more than a Nato protectorate. The official, and for the time being genuine, reason is only a Western takeover on this scale can tackle the humanitarian crisis posed by the 300,000 or more Kosovo

upshot is that Albania is in a state of undeclared war with Belgrade. What is more, President Milosevic knows that any Nato ground invasion of Kosovo would now come from Albania rather than Macedonia. For that reason, analysts reckon, he may be seeking to push the KLA units back from the border while he builds up ground defences against a Nato at-

But the Serb incursion poses a subtler threat. Throughout the Kosovo crisis, for all the ties of blood and culture. Albania has tried to avoid stoking the fires of a "greater Albania," embracing all or most of Kosovo where Albanians until lately constituted 90 per cent of the population, and a slice of Western Macedonia, where ethnic Albanians are strongly represented. The very notion alarms all Slav populations of the region. More fighting could light the fuse of a wider, generalised banians in the central Balkans. gineers and other support

# MILITARY PRESENCE

By JOHN DAVISON

THE EXTRA 1,800 British troops being sent to Macedonia will double the number of frontline soldiers on the ground and bring the Army's presence there to full armoured brigade strength. This is a potent, selfsupporting formation that could provide the perfect spearhead to an invasion of Kosovo, But it may not be fully in place for a month and would require huge back-up from other nation's forces before becoming a cred-

ible threat The deployment features a squadron of 14 Challenger 1 main battle tanks from the King's Royal Hussars, two companies of armoured infantry with 40 Warrior fighting vehicles from the Irish Guards and the Green Howards, six AS-90 155mm self propelled guns from 4 Regiment Royal Ar-

units. These represent a second battle group from 4 Armoured Brigade (the "Black Rats") hased in Osnabrück, Germany. They will join the brigade's tactical headquarters, which is already in Macedonia, and its lead battle group, which is currently deployed on the frontier with Kosovo.

Support engineers and an

Irish Guards reconnaissance group will leave by ship today from Emden in northern Germany, while the heavy armour will embark on Friday. The troops will be dispatched to join their equipment when it arrives at Thessaloniki in Greece about 10 days later.

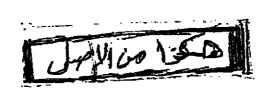
Units deploying from Britain include 20 light reconnaissance vehicles from the Household Cavalry Regiment, based at Windsor and 10 DROPS logisterick in North Yorkshire. In all, can be done.

the new troops will bring the total deployment in Macedonia and Greece to 6.300.

Once fully assembled, the brigade will be able to train effectively together for the first time since it was placed on alert in February. The lead battle group has been in Macedonia since the end of the first set of Rambouillet peace talks, and the second battle group has been on 72 hours' notice to move ever since.

Defence sources say it will be 20 to 30 days before the new troops and their equipment are fully operational. Given that this is supposed to be the backbone of a peace-keeping or protection force, the time scale gives a strong indication of how long both the Government and Nato commanders think that the air campaign will have conflict between Slavs and Al-tillery, with combat Royal En-tic support vehicles from Cat-to continue before any deal





in a remote location 175 miles downstream from the Victoria Falls.

interest in the profession as a whole

He took early retirement in 1982.

The move gave him a new lease of academic productivity, with three major books, Planning the Urban Region (1982), Political Theories of Modern Government (1985) and Government by the Market? (1993). He finished his last book. Rolling Back the Market: economic dogma and political choice, only five weeks before his death, from liver cancer; it will be published by Macmillan in November.

Soon after his arrival, the Hawke government asked him to chair a major inquiry into Australian local government finance (1984-85), Self showed amazing ability not only to grasp the technical complexities but also the impacts on the ordinary person in the Sydney suburb, and his report was widely commended.

Self's old-fashioned British academic style, which he shared with many of his peers, was one of the finest achievements of the educational system that reared him and that he served with such distinction. As grand and often nonsensical theory has overcome much of academia, we have lost much of such style. and with the death of Peter Self we realise how much we have lost.

PETER HALL Peter John Otter Self, journalist, town planner and political scientist born London 7 June 1919; Lecturer in Public Administration, London School of Economics 1948-61, Reader in Political Science 1961-63; Prodissolved), 1959 Elaine Adams (née Rosenbloom; two sons; marriage

# Lt-Gen Sir Ian Harris

IAN HARRIS commanded the 2nd Battalion, the Royal Ulster Rifles (RUR) on D-Day 1944 and led them with considerable courage through some of the fiercest fighting in the months that followed. He had trained his men particularly well; knitting them into a close fraternity and inspiring in them an admiration and respect for him and faith in his leadership. As a consequence morale seldom faltered in his battalion and as one of his officers who fought alongside him was to recall, "we took our victories and our wounds as if they

were everyday occurrences".
"Tommy" Harris led a skilful attack on Cambes and his battalion led the Allied Armies' thrust into Caen on 9 July 1944 where after a tough fight they later celebrated with the Canadians and the liberated population. For the next six months the battalion was seldom out of action, with a difficult assault crossing of the Meuse-Escaut Canal and further winter battles in Holland, in particular at Wanssum where casualties were high.

Harris was one of six brothers and three sisters, and spent his early life on his father's stud farm in Co Tipperary. Educated at Portora Royal School in Enniskillen, he was commissioned into the Royal Ulster Rifles in 1930. He joined the First Battalion in Belfast and it was during a boxing match there that a spectator called out "Come on, Tommy"

to encourage him. The name stuck, Before the outbreak of the Second World War he enjoyed the life of a young subaltern with postings in the Sudan, Palestine, Egypt and Hong Kong, where he became Adjutant, while from 1937 to 1939 he was on the North West Frontier. He was a natural horseman and excelled at polo.

He returned to the UK when war broke out and held a series of staff appointments before being given command of the 2nd Battalion which he left in the battlefields of Holland at the end of December 1944.

From the bleak Dutch winter he was flown to India to become GSO 1 of 25 Indian Division in its tortuous advance down the Arakan coast in Burma. He was then sent to 7 Indian Division in its re-occupation of Malaya and remained in India to see through its independence. On his return to the UK he attend Junior Service Staff College before becoming MG Scottish Command until 1951.

In May that year he returned to his native Ulster to take command of 6 RUR (TA) before becoming Chief of Staff HQ Northern Ireland Three years later he returned to the Malayan jungle to command the 1st Federal Infantry Brigade in searching out and destroying Communist terrorists. Through constant and intensive patrolling, gradually the terrorists were denied success.

irte.

DEATH N

On his return to the UK he was appointed Deputy Director of Staff Duties in the War Office, where he was responsible for executive deployment of the Army throughout the world. In 1960 he was made GOC Singapore and District and in 1963 he became Chief of Staff Contingencies Planning at Shape in Paris where he was in charge of Nato plans for dealing with the Russian threat to occupy West Berlin. Aware of his impending retirement, with his wife he bought some land in the South of France. His last military appointment was one he delighted in, for he became GOC Northern Ireland. Sadly by the time of his retirement from the Army in 1969, an ever-darkening shadow was enveloping the province. As Regimental Colonel of the

RUR he became deeply involved with the amalgamation of the three regiments that went to form the Royal Irish Rangers, steering it through with a combination of steely tenacity and charm, and becoming Regimental Colonel from 1968 to 1972. On his retirement he became Chairman of the British Support

Committee for the Memorial Museum at Caen, as well as being made an honorary citizen. He returned to his family partnership and manage ment of the Ballykisteen Stud. He became Chairman (1977-79) and President (1984-88) of the Irish Bloodstock Breeders' Association

Tommy Harris never forgot those who served with him and along with his wife, who had great flair and organisational skills at fundraising, continued to work for the welfare of his former troops. He was a man of great humour and had a vast reservoir of kindness and warmth.

Ian Cecil ("Tommy") Harris, soldier

MAX ARTHUR

and bloodstock breeder: born Golden, Co Tipperary 7 July 1910; DSO 1945: Chief of Staff, Northern Ireland 1952-54; Commander 1 Feder-Deputy Director of Staff Duties, War Office 1957-60; CBE 1958, KBE 1967; GOC Singapore 1960-62; CB 1962; Chief of Staff Contingencies Planning. Shape 1963-66: GOC in C, then GOC NI Command 1966-69; married 1945 Anne-Marie Desmotreux (one

# Sir Angus Paton

ANGUS PATON was one of the most able civil engineers of the modern era, and largely responsible for leading the trend of exporting British technical expertise around the world.

During his 22 years as senior partner at Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners, the distinguished British consulting firm founded by his uncle, he transformed the business from a largely home-based firm with 400 staff to an international organisation with over 1,500 engineers working in 63 different counties.

The pinnacle of Paton's global construction career was the construction of the vast Kariba dam and hydroelectric power station on the River Zambesi in southern Africa. Described by Paton as the "highlight of my professional career", the difficult Kariba project was completed in 1960, on time and within its £75m

budget, and he was appointed CMG. It was this project and the repu-tation Paton and his team gained during its execution that led to the firm's involvement in many of the biggest dam construction projects around the world over the next two decades. These included schemes in the Sudan, Argentina, South Africa and two large dams, the Mangla and

Tarbela, in Pakistan. Born in the Channel Island of Jersey in 1905, Paton spent the first two years of his school life, until the age of seven and a half, in France. He then transferred to the mainland to complete his education at Cheltenham College. It was at Cheltenham that his love for mathematics and engineering was developed. The combination of a excellent mathematics teacher, a good memory and being "not much good at games" meant that he excelled at school and at 17 won a scholarship to University College London. He graduated with a first class BSc honours degree in

civil engineering three years later. Civil engineering was in his blood, through his uncle Sir Alexander Gibb. Paton spent the first three years of his career, from 1925, under Gibb's pupillage at his firm of con-



The Kariba dam was completed in 1960. Paton described it as the highlight of his career

sulting engineers. He went on to work on a variety of projects on site in the UK and abroad, notably maritime ones in Burma and Canada.

In 1934, two years after his marriage, Paton took on his biggest task thus far, acting as Resident Engineer in charge of the construction of the new Guinness brewery in Park Royal. north-west London. This £2m project included seven large steel-framed buildings, a power station, storage silo, roads and railway sidings. Beer still flows from these premises today. The success of his work on the Guinness plant led to Paton's be-

coming a partner of the firm in 1938. In the office Paton was renowned for his problem-solving ability. His colleagues were aware - and often in awe of the fact - that he was capable of doing "any job, quicker and better than anyone else". His

depth of knowledge across disciplines allowed him to become involved with all aspects of contracts from design and construction to financial and legal. His vast knowledge, combined with a direct manner and piercing gaze, could put those around him from office junior to senior clients on their guard.

As a partner he took charge of many large UK-based industrial and trading estate developments in Wales, West Cumberland and London. At the outbreak of the Second World War he became a central figure in the British engineering war effort designing and constructing ordnance factories, underground aircraft assembly plants and a new turbine factory for British Thomson-Houston Co.

During the war, Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners secured a huge number of government contracts. causing their work force to leap by over 2,000 in a couple of weeks in September 1939. Paton was a key member of the team and his work included supervising construction of some of the massive concrete sections of the Mulberry Harbour scheme in the London Docks.

After the war Paton continued to work for the company, now with Sir Alexander Gibb's son Alastair at the helm. He spent the next 10 years developing the business overseas and upon Alastair Gibb's sudden death in a polo accident, took over as

senior partner in 1955. The appointment coincided with Paton taking charge of the Kariba dam and hydroelectric power scheme on the Zambia-Zimbabwe border. This difficult project would see the construction of a 420ft-high double curvature arch dam - the biggest ever constructed - and a 600MW underground power station

Working in partnership with the French dam-design expert André Coyne, Paton led the overall design of the project and the supervision of construction work by the Italian main

contractor Impresit. Despite suffering some of the worst flooding on record halfway through the job it was

The Kariba project on the River Zambèsi. Dam-construction com

completed on time and to budget. The project acted as a springboard for Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners to win some of the biggest civil engineering contracts around the world. Paton continued to encourage the firm's expansion overseas and as the business grew. One of the biggest of these projects was to advise the World Bank during the construction of the massive and highly complex Tarbela dam in Pakistan.

In addition to his engineering responsibilities. Paton took an active perhaps more so following the untimely death of his wife in 1964. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1969 and was President of the

Institution of Civil Engineers in 1970-71. He continually pressed engineers around him to open their minds to other disciplines.

He published many learned papers on a variety of civil engineering issues and a book entitled Power from Water (1960), and he put much effort into pressing the industry and its clients to spend more money flow of work continued the size of the on valuable research and development; he was also central to the formation of the government-backed Construction Industry Research

and Information Association. In 1973 he was knighted for services to the construction profession and in 1976 was a founding Fellow of the Fellowship of Engineering later renamed the Royal Academy

of the Royal Society. He retired from Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners in 1977, though remaining a consultant.

His last two decades were spent in Jersey but he remained, until recently in close contact with the profession and his former colleagues, retaining the sharp analytical mind and clear process of thought for which he was known throughout a distinguished career.

Thomas Angus Lyall Paton, civil engineer: born Grouville, Jersey 10 May 1905; partner, Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners 1938-55, senior partner 1955-77, senior consultant | 1977-84; CMG 1960; FRS 1969; Kt 1973; married 1932 Joan Delmé-Murray (died 1964; two sons, two daughters); died St Helier, Jersey

# Professor Peter Self

PETER SELF had four careers - as journalist, as university teacher of planning, as planning policy-maker and finally, in Australia, as teacher and government adviser - though he had the intellect and tenacity to have pursued many more.

It is no criticism, indeed it is a compliment, to say that he had an old-fashioned British academic style. He was a traditional liberal; he instinctively distrusted grand theory, preferring to trust common sense. That caused him to question both the planning orthodoxies of the 1960s and the anti-planning ideologies of the 1980s. He loved argument, whether with

a cabinet minister or a student, but conducted it always in the style of liberal discourse that came naturally to him. Slowly, quietly, in his very personal questioning tone, he would advance a proposition, expecting to be challenged or qualified, restating and

refining his own position. Born in London in 1919, into a comfortable middle-class family, he had a conventional education at Lancing College and then Balliol College, Oxford, where he read Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

Graduating after Dunkirk, he characteristically and courageously became a conscientious objector.



Self: common sense

In 1944 he began his first career, as a journalist and member of the editorial team at The Economist. where he continued until 1962. But that year, 1944 - a time of huge excitement about post-war reconstruction, with the publication of the two great Abercrombie plans for London - he also began extramural teaching for London University.

In 1948 Professor William Robson, whose 1939 book The Government and Misgovernment of London had provided the blueprint for the Greater London Council brought him to the LSE, and his second

This was the time of the post-war new towns and the 1947 Planning Act. Returning to power in 1951, the Conservatives set the private builders free but sought to contain the growth of the cities, and showed little enthusiasm for new towns. The birth-rate unexpectedly rose from 1955, just as slum clearance began again in earnest; something had to give. Self's first book, Cities in Flood, published in 1957, had huge journalistic verve and instantly established his reputation as the country's leading academic expert on planning questions - albeit operating outside the then Town Planning Institute (which, however, later gave him honorary membership).

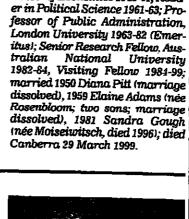
He became involved in the Town and Country Planning Association in 1954, on the promoting of the formidable Frederic Osborn, who doubtless picked him as worthy successor. As with most things "FJO" planned, so it happened: Self became vicechairman of the executive the next year, and followed the 77-year-old Osborn into the chairmanship in 1961. He did not equal Osborn's record of 17 years in the chair, but he did manage eight crucial years: the resumption of the new towns programme by a reluctant Conservative administration, the return of Labour in 1964. and the first great experiment in regional planning in the UK.

The TCPA commanded immense respect because of its constant advocacy of planned urban dispersal, and chairmanship involved regular advocacy before ministers, accompanied by successive directors: first Wyndham Thomas, who left to manage Peterborough New Town, and then, from 1967, David Hall. This political rough-and-tumble did not come naturally, but Self entered into the spirit of it, and his powerful intellectual gifts proved fully a match for the Socratic style of Richard Crossman, then Minister for Housing and Local Government

Thus established in his third career, in the 1960s he progressed in his second: elevated to Reader (1961) and Professor (1963) at the LSE, in 1966 he helped launch one of the socalled new planning courses, the MSc in Regional and Urban Planning Studies, which continues today. An obvious choice to join the South East Regional Economic Planning Council in 1966, he achieved the distinction of sitting on it continuously until Michael Heseltine dissolved it in 1979. He prepared and gave evidence to the Roskill Commission on

the Third London Airport, and this led him to write a devastating attack on the use of cost-benefit analysis in planning, Econocrats and the Policy Process (1976) - a turning-point in

British planning theory and practice. aged 63, and – after a few doubts and hesitations - embarked on his fourth career as an academic in Australia. as Senior Research Fellow (1982-84) and then Visiting Fellow (until his death) at the Australian National University in Canberra. Here he joined leading Australian academics like Max Neutze and Patrick Troy to make up one of the outstanding urban research units in the world, where he played a hugely stimulating role.



# Colin Manley

"COLIN MANLEY was brilliant," Paul McCartney said during an interview on BBC Radio Merseyside in 1988. "He was the finest guitarist around Liverpool in the early 1960s and he could do all that Chet Atkins stuff with two fingers. A lot of the lads tried to play like that, but only Colin could do it really well."

McCartney knew Manley from their schooldays together at Liverpool Institute. While Paul and George Harrison became Beatles, Colin Manley and his schoolfriend, Don Andrew, formed the Remo Four Manley later recalled: "Paul left school in 1959 and would not consider any other job but playing music. Don and I went after jobs right away and it was only after a couple of years that we decided to pack it in. Paul didn't think like that at all - he

wanted to play and that was it." With the vocalist and guitarist Keith Stokes and the drummer Harry Prytherch, the Remos played around dance-halls and clubs on Merseyside. They are particularly re-

membered for their instrumentals and their green suits with shocking pink linings. Many Cavedwellers recall the Remo Four outclassing the Shadows one night in 1961 at the Cavern. "I can't dispute that." says Hank Marvin, "we had a bad night. The Remo Four were excellent and a far better proposition than us."

Manley was always experimenting with his sound. In 1959 he ordered a Bigsby tremolo arm from America which he attached to his Hofner Committee guitar in order to emulate Duane Eddy's twangy guitar. A year later he was entranced by the wahwah effects on Chet Atkins's "Boo Boo Stick Beat" and ordered a DeArmond foot-pedal. With these accourrements he could emulate an orchestra

playing "The James Bond Theme". In 1962 the Remo Four went fully professional for a tour of US airbases in France. The line-up changed to Manley, Andrew, Phil Rogers and Roy Dyke with two vocalists, Johnny Sandon (who left the Searchers to join them) and Ellen Bee, who got engaged to six servicemen during the group's six months away.

By the time they returned to the UK, the Beatles were becoming known nationally and the Remo Four quickly secured a contract with Pye Records. Manley played his new Fender Jaguar on "Lies" (1963). which he also wrote. He used the wah-wah footpedal on the B-side. "On the Horizon" - the first British record with this effect; it was followed by the Beatles' "I Need You".

The Remo Four were signed to Brian Epstein's NEMS organisation, working as backing musicians for Cilla Black and others. With Tommy Quickly they made the Top Thirty with "The Wild Side of Life" in 1964. Manley said of this period.

We used to go on with Tommy for a short spot just before the Beatles. We couldn't hear the music we were playing because the fans were in such a frenzy. They made almost the same noise for Tommy as they did for the Beatles. I could have played in a different key to everybody else and nobody would have noticed. John Lennon let me use his 12-string Rickenbacker for the introduction to "The Wild Side of Life". When we fin-ished our spot, we'd come off and I'd give it back to him. I could tell by the look on his face that it was all too much for him. It was like being in the bird house of a zoo, greatly amplified.

Also in 1964, the Remo Four released a blistering version of "Peter Gunn". Duane Eddy commented, "It's absolutely wild and I loved it. It takes guts to play it without a sax!" Don Andrew left the Remo Four in 1965, and then the group were obliged to leave on tour. Manley recalled, NEMS was well-organised by show-business standards. We had itineraries and wage packets and botels were booked for us. After a couple of years, NEMS told us that we owed them some enormous sum of money - and we also owed back taxes. The only answer was to go to Germany to work it off.

Manley, Rogers and Dyke were joined by a keyboard player, Tony Ashton, They were very successful and experimented with extended jazz pieces at the Star-Club. Their jazz-rock album, Smile (1966), was ahead of its time and it was in Ger-

many that Manley discovered what could be described as "rock 'n' dole": "The Arbeitsamt was a government service which would arrange gigs for us. There was no middleman and tax was deducted at source. It was terrific." They returned to the UK in 1967 and were produced by George Harrison for the soundtrack of the film Wonderwall (1969). In 1998 a fine, unreleased track from the sessions, "In the First Place", was found and issued.

The Remo Four broke up with the advent of a splinter group, Ashton, Gardner and Dyke, who had a Top Ten hit with "The Resurrection Shuffle" (1973). Manley found work as a Dakota for Billy J. Kramer and a Blue Flame for Georgie Fame and spent some years with Clodagh Rodgers and then Freddie Starr.

For the past 15 years, he was a member of another 1960s Liverpool band, the Swinging Blue Jeans, who showcased his guitar wizardry. In 1992, he played a sensational version of "Sleepwalk" at a Remo Four reunion in Liverpool. In recent years. Liverpool 9 April 1999.



Manley: wizardry Redferns

he had made a supreme effort to shed weight. The Blue Jeans' lead singer, Ray Ennis, commented, "He's leaving us inch by inch." Although very al Infantry Brigade, Malaya 1954-57; ill from cancer, he was able to see his daughter, Julia, performing recently in the musical Smokey Joe's Cofe.

SPENCER LEIGH Colin William Manley, guitarist: born Liverpool 16 April 1942; mar-

ried (one son, one daughter); died son, and one son deceased); died Dublin 12 March 1999.

حكدًا من الأصل

FOR LECIL Travis Martin, a.k.a. Boxcar Willie, Saturday 14 April 1979 was a defining moment in his career. Handed a bare 15-minute slot at the 11th International Festival of Country Music at Wembley that Easter, the 47-

year-old Texan brought the house

down, propelling himself instantly toward a kind of superstardom. British country fans were at the time amongst the most conservative anywhere, favouring a traditionalism

rooted in the Forties and Fifties which seemed perfectly in tune with his style. His heroes - Jimmie Rodgers, Hank

Williams, Roy Acuff and Lefty Frizzell - were their heroes; his crowd-pleasing original numbers like "I Love the Sound of a Whistle" and the recitation "Papa's Old Pocket Watch" were firmly rooted

in the past; and his hobo persona too

evoked that earlier age. As a result he

became perhaps the most popular

country act on this side of the Atlantic,

a welcome buffer against the often

soupy MOR excesses then prevalent in

Boxcar Willie's stage name came

courtesy of a hobo he had once seen on

a passing train; the man reminded him

of his friend and fellow performer Willie

Nelson. Boxcar Willie's stage attire

the overalls, jacket and battered hat

gave his live appearances an apt and

memorable visual aspect whilst his im-

itative train whistle itself became much

and often badly) imitated. The proud

owner of his own train museum, he later

became World Ambassador for the

Trains were in Lecil Martin's blood:

his fiddle-playing father worked the

railroads and the family lived in a wood-

en shack just feet from the tracks.

Years later, he would remember those

times in songs like "The Old Iron Trail".

He was exposed to the music of many

of the major country acts of that era

and found himself particularly drawn to

the discs of the man known as "The

Singing Brakeman", Jimmie Rodgers.

In 1942, aged only 10 years old, Martin

Performing as Marty Martin, he

played the local bars and honky tonks,

sharing gigs with the great Lofty

Frizzell and even appearing on Dallas's

answer to the Grand Ole Opry, the Big

D Jamboree. But his success in the

also worked as a refrigerator salesman,

a bowling alley attendant and for many

years as a pilot with the US air force.

Few of his British fans realised that his

an airman back in the Fifties when he

flew B-36s at Upper Hayford and

arst visit to this country had been as

much of the music.

Hobo Foundation.

made his radio début.

Burtonwood airbases.

WEDN ESDAY REVIEW

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# Boxcar Willie



Boxcar Willie's crowd-pleasing numbers and hobo persona evoked an earlier age

لفكدا من الملاحل

professionally, even appearing on his own daily television show in Lincoln, Nebraska, but it would be another 15 years before his transformation into Boxcar Willie; a personal and angry response to the influx into country music of middle-of-the-road acts like John Denver and Olivia Newton-John.

In 1977, whilst working at George Jones's Possum Hollow Club in Nashville, he was spotted by a Scottish promoter, Drew Taylor, who booked him for the first of four tours over the next 18 months. It was on the strength of these that he was invited to perform music business proved erratic and he at Wembley in 1979.

> Following his "sudden" rise to superstardom, Boxcar Willie became a regular visitor to these shores and began to receive greater attention back home. His 1981 album King of the Road sold two million copies and "Ramblin' in My Shoes", a duet with Hank Williams Jnr from Williams's album The Pressure

By 1960 he was again performing Is On, made his name with the redneck crowd. He was among the nominees for the Country Music Association's Horizon Award that year and more importantly was invited to join the cast of Nashville's Grand Ole Opry, thus fulfilling a lifelong dream. On its stage he performed alongside several of his idols, notably the Opry stalwart Roy Acuff, and continued to appear there until quite recently. In 1985 he enjoyed an effective cameo as a jailbird hobo in

> A series of best-selling albums, among them Last Train To Heaven (1982), for which he received a gold disc. continued to prove that there was a demand for traditional no-frills country music, but paradoxically it was the emergence of new traditionalists like Randy Travis and the Sweethearts of the Rodeo in the mid-Eighties which was to see his music marginalised. They too looked back, but in a progressive way. managing to avoid the element of pas-

the Patsy Cline biopic Sweet Dreams.

tiche and a over-readiness to resort to cover versions which marked the poorest of Boxcar Willie's work. He continued to record but his albums, including Falling in Love (1988) and The Spirit of America (1991), were met with both critical and commercial indifference.

In 1987 he moved to Branson, Missouri, a small town in the Ozarks, which subsequently became something of an entertainment Mecca. Millions now flock annually to watch family-oriented shows by performers like Andy Williams, the Osmonds, Ray Stevens and Roy Clark. "Boxie" proved one of the town's most durable and popular stars. often performing six or more shows a week in his own dinner-theatre.

PAUL WADEY

Lecil Travis Martin (Boxcar Willie), country singer and songuriter: born Sterrett. Texas 1 September 1931; married (two daughters); died Branson, Missouri 12 April 1999.

MEDICAL NOTES

# The plague has ended. After Aids, what next?

LIFE. WE are constantly reminded, is a risky business. A recent broadcast of Equinor proposed that we should make an accurate calculation of the risks in our everyday lives, and respond accordingly. The programme urged caution against prognostications of doom. Herein lies the paradox of risk; it is about danger and hazard, but equally (in a free market economy) it concerns opportunity. Risk seduces us towards harm and achievement.

Social theorists explore the notion of the "risk society", with particular attention to it as a defining feature of late (largely urban) modernity. With the demise of traditional social and political institutions (lifelong married monogamy in the two-parent family; permanent jobs; the welfare state) we are thrust back on our own resources in determining the courses and meanings of our lives. We are ever having to make choices, rather than our cultures and histories determining these for us.

Two characteristic responses to the lack of modern role models are detected - a retreat into reinvented "traditional" forms, notably new religious fundamentalisms, and a variety of political defences of the family; or a creative move forward to pluralistic models of society, largely explored through identity politics and the new "direct action" movements.

which forcefully illustrates our current anxieties over social normlessness. It has been seen as a full stop to the permissiveness inherited from the Sixties, or even as a plague on those who stray from the normal and the good. It has made sex risky in unprecedented ways. More than any other contemporary phenomenon it has been made to symbolise a boundary between the acceptable and the unaccept-

able (behaviours, values.

individuals, communities). Yet, contrarily, it has been the rallying point for those who resist the normalisation desired by those seeking to reinvigorate tradition, a standpoint from which to argue passionately for social pluralism. In Britain it has been the locus of redefinition of the meaning, purpose, and, arguably, ethos of gay community. Other subordinate groups have followed in developing community organizations to lobby for and provide HIV/Aids prevention and treatment services,

African and women's groups notably. The emergency of dealing with Aids has forced these diverse constituencies . to reflect on their values and the ways they treat people different from themselves. In this one sense Aids has been a force for the good.

It seems, as we enter the new millennium, that Aids may be losing its potency, clinical and social. The

Aids is a phenomenon new combination antiviral therapies offer the possibility of its becoming a chronic rather than fatal syndrome. Andrew Sullivan has confidently, though controversially, declared that Aids, in the specific sense of a plague. has ended.

Questions remain. The efficacy of the new therapies in perpetuity is not proven they've only been available since 1996). There is evidence of a rise in the rate of new HIV infections among young gay men. In America. and now here, there is concern over the phenomenon of "barebacking" (unprotected penetrative sex among gay men at sex-on-premises clubs). We are, none the less, at the end of a distinct historical moment

What might follow? We fear new disease agents. such as prions (the cause of human variant CJD). These may present risks, but they cannot carry the symbolic load Aids had. Aids specifically (and most strongly in the West) linked despised sexuality with disease and death. Awfully, it linked a perceived decay, and decadence, of modern society with culprits. Such a specific set of associations is, statistically speaking, unlikely to recur. The risk, thankfully, is small.

Dr Philip Gatter is the author of Identity and Serualitu: Aids in Britain in the 1990s' (Cassell, 15 April, £45)

# **GAZETTE**

### BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

### DEATHS

BISHOP: Sir George Sidney, CB OBE, much loved and loving husband and companion of Una, dear father of Prudence and dear father or Protesters and proud grandfather of Martin, Philip, Alistair and Rowena, died peacefully on 9 April following a severe stroke. Cremation at 3.30pm, Friday 16 April, at the Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham, and later, on a date to be announced, a reception in his announced, a reception in his memory at the Royal Geographical Society. Family flowers only, but a fund in his name to encourage travel and explo-ration by young people will be established for those wishing to make a donation. An address for contributions will be published

shortly.

TUOHY: On 11 April 1999, Frank Tuohy, writer, of a heart attack in Shepton Mallet Hospital. Funeral at St Mary the Virgin, Yarlington, on Monday 19 April at 12.45pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired for The Royal Literary Fund, c/o Harold F. Miles, FD., South Cadbury, BA22 7ES. (01963) 440367.

Memorial gathering in London to be announced later.

ially lethal chess player under

the Russian Cup (annual

Grand Prix circuit) in Nov-

gorod showed that Russian -

and Kazakh - stones, too, are

magical, as a horde of lesser-

known players swarmed ahead

of the big names. The 10-round

Swiss, held 19-27 March, com-

prised no fewer than 27 grand-

masters and 19 international

wins and four draws gave Pavel

A splendidly consistent six

masters in the field of 76.

The recent fourth stage of

practically every stone.

### **FORTHCOMING** MARRIAGES

Dr N.E. Brook and Dr M.H. Annan The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Brook, of Dorking, Surrey, and Mary, daughter on Mr and Mrs Robin Annan, of Scalby, North Yorkshire.

### BIRTHDAYS Sir Patrick Brown, former Per-

manent Secretary, Department of Transport, 59; Mr Roy Cameron, former Chief Consta-ble, Dumfries and Galloway, 52; Mr Ian Cawsey MP, 39; Miss Julie Christie, actress, 59; Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Dalton, former Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, 68; Sir John Gielgud, actor, 95; Mr Gerry Gillman, former trade union leader, 72: Lord Hastings, farmer and former government minister, 87; The Most Rev Dr David Hope, Archbishop of York, 59; Mr Julian Lloyd Webber, cellist, 48; Miss Loretta Lynn, country singer, 64; Mr Michael Maclagan, former Richmond Herald of Arms, 85; Colonel Sir Robert Macrae, former Lord-

Lieutenant of Orkney, 84; The Right Rev Michael Marshall, Priest in Charge, Holy Trinity, Sloane Street, 63; Baroness Masham of Ilton, 64: The Right Rev John Oliver, Bishop of Hereford, 64; Mr Patrick Ramsay, former Controller, BBC Scotland, 73; The Right Rev Leslie Rees, Assistant Bishop, Winchester, 80: Profes sor John Roberts, historian and former Warden, Merton College, Oxford, 71: The Ven Raymond Roberts, former David Skipper, education con-sultant, 68; Mr Rod Steiger. actor, 74; Dr Howard Stoate MP. 45: Baroness Symons of

Vernham Dean, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 48; Sir Peter Thompson, Life President, NFC plc, 71: Mr George Walker, former chairman and chief executive, Brent Walker. 70; Baroness Warnock, former Mistress of Girton College. Cambridge, 75.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Christiaan Huygens, astronomer, physicist and math-ematician, 1629; Arnold Joseph Toynbee, historian, 1889; François Duvalier, Haitian dictator ("Papa Doc"), 1907.

Deaths: George Frederick Handel, composer, violinist and organist, 1759; Ernest Bevin. statesman and trade union leader, 1951: Simone de Beauvoir, writer and feminist, 1986. On this day: Abraham Lincoln. 16th US President, was shot by the assassin John Wilkes Booth 1865: the first quintuplets in Linda Bostock, of Armadale, West Lothian, 1972, Today is the Feast Day of Saints Antony, John and Eustace, St Ardalion. St Benezet, St Bernard of Tiror or Abbeville, St Caradoc, St. John of Vilna, St Lambert of Lyons, Saints Tiburtius, Valerius and Maximus and the Martyrs of Lithuania, It is also the first day of the Sikh New

### LECTURES

National Gallery: Alfons Lieven Dierick, "Van der Weyden (ii): focused on van der Weyden", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Sibylle Luig, "Cassone and Birth Trays", 2pm. Royal Society of Arts, London WC2: Professor Alastair Michell, "Only One Medicine. areas of convergence and contrast between animal and human medicine". Gpm.

#### ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Queen and The Oulor of Edinburgh goe a reception of Windsor Castle for members of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association. The Duke of Edinburgh Patron, attends a dinner for Voluntary Services Overseas at Fragmer: House, Windsor, The Princess Royal waits St Ann's Hospier, Little Hollor, Manchester, as President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, waits the Roofe of Mentoring Plus Project, Cheetham Manchester, and attends a seminar of Machineter Pinversity School of Mentories Pinversity, School of Budding, and visits Manchester. Refectory Building and visits Mariches to r High School for Girls during their 125th anniversary year. The Duke of Kent, Patron Stroke As octation, attend the association's Centuriary Sear Inter-national Scientific Contenacy at the Boyal College of Physicians, London

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Reprincent mounts the Queen's Life Guard a Horse Guards Ham, P Company Southouser's mounts the Queen's Guard at Buckinghum Palace, 11 Joans South unmided by the Welsh Ligards

For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS Births, Adoptions, Marriages Deaths, Memorial services. Wedding anniversaries. In memoriam), telephone 0171-293 2012 or fax to 0171-293 2010; notices are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

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# Regulatory functions not chargeable

A PROFESSIONAL body carrying out, under statutory authority, a regulatory function which was essentially for the protection of the public, was not carrying on an economic activity which was chargeable to value added tax within the terms of section 4 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 and article 4 of the Sixth Council Directive

fees for that activity. The House of Lords dismissed the appeal of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales against the decision of the Court of Appeal that certain of its activities were not chargeable to VAT.

77/3881 (EEC) of 17 May 1977,

notwithstanding that it received

The institute claimed repayment or set-off of input tax paid on goods and services supplied to it in respect of certain of its functions for which fees were payable. Those functions arose:

under the Financial Services Act 1986 and the Financial Services Act 1986 (Delegation) Order 1987 (SI 1987/942), pursuant to which the institute was recognised as a body able to issue certificates of authorisation to its members so that they could carry on investment business:

ii) under the Companies Act 1989, pursuant to which the institute was recognised as a supervisory body in respect of company auditors: and iii under the Insolvency Act

1986. pursuant to which the institute was accepted as a recog-nised professional body with the power to grant or refuse, review or terminate licences to practise as an insolvency practitioner and to investigate the activities of members.

Section 4 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 provided: "VAT shall be charged on any supply of goods or services made in the United Kingdom where it is a the Commissioners.

### WEDNESDAY Lord Slynn said that there LAW REPORT

14 APRIL 1999

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales v Commissioners of

Customs and Excise House of Lords (Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Hoffmann, Lord Hope of Craighead

Lord Hutton) 25 March 1999 taxable supply made by a tax-

able person in the course or furtherance of any business carried on by him. By article 2 of the Sixth Council Directive 77/3881

(EEC) of 17 May 1977 "the supply of goods or services effected for consideration... by a taxable person acting as such" was subject to VAT, and by article 4(1) "taxable person" meant "any person who independently carries out in any place an economic activity specified in paragraph (2)

Article 4(2) provided: "The economic activities referred to in paragraph (1) shall comprise all activities of producers. traders and persons supplying services, including ... activ-ities of the professions." Andrew Thornhill QC and Rupert Baldry QC (Denton Hall) for the Institute; Kenneth Parker QC and Melanie Hall (Solicitor

for HM Customs and Excise) for

the Directive, which referred to the supply of services reffected for a consideration by a taxable person", a "taxable person" being a person who carried out any economic activity including "the activities of the professions". The Act had, so far as possible, to be construed so as to give effect to the Directive. and so far as the Directive was concerned, the European Court of Justice had made it

was a difference in the wording

of the 1994 Act, which referred

to a "taxable supply made by a

taxable person in the course or

furtherance of any business

carried on by him", and that of

clear that it was not enough merely to point to the fact that there was a supply of services in return for a money payment and some loose economic connection, but that the activities must be of an "economic character".

In the present case, the institute was carrying out on behalf of the State a regulatory function in each of the three financial areas in question to ensure that only fit and proper persons were licensed or authorised to carry out the various activities, and to monitor what they did.

That was essentially a function of the State for the protection of the actual or potential investor, trader and shareholder It was not in any real sense a trading or commercial activity which might justify it being described as "economic", and the fact that fees were charged for the granting of the licences did not convert it into one.

> KATE O'HANLON. Barrister

#### CHESS JON SPEELMAN

stories are true, there used to be an unknown Ildar Ibragimov (2,603) made 5.5 and poor Alexander Nena-

shev (Uzbekistan, 2.616) just 5. To beat a player rated well over 100 points more than you as Black, you usually need the run of play; this the tournament winner certainly got in this penultimate round encounter.

4 ... Ng8!? - rather than 4 ...Nd7 – is provocative. Dreev got a powerful position with a strong queenside majority and, after ... f5, pressure against e6. The exchange sacrifice 20 Rxd7!? was quite consequent though then the immediate 21 Rd1+ was much simpler.

Unfortunately for White, if 22 Rd1+ Kc8 23 Bxe6+? Rxe6 16 b4 f5 24 Nxe6 Re8 wins material. Kotsur defended with 22 ...Bxc3 and 23 ...Rh6! but White still had enough for the exchange which he could have 21 Bc4?! Rce8 51 Nxe5 Rd4+ regained with 32 bxa6!? bxa6 33 22 Bf2 Bxc3! 52 Ka3 Nc5 Ba4! though e5 34 Bxd7 Kxd7 isn't too clear. But only with 35 24 h4 Nfd8 Ra1? did Dreev get into trouble 25 Rd1+ Kc8 -35 Nc5 Nb7 36 Nxa6+ Kc8 37 Nb4 Rxa5 38 Nxc6 looks fine. 27 Bb3 Nef7 After 36 ...N8b7! 37 Nxa6+ KCC White couldn't defend the 29 a4 Rd7

White: Alexei Dreev Black: Pavel Kotsur Pirc Defence

31 a5 a6

32 c6 bxc6

1 d4 d6

2 e4 Nf6

3 f3 d5 33 b6+ Kb8 4 e5 Ng8!? 34 Nd3 Rd5! 5 c4 dxc4 35 Ra1 Nd6 6 Bxc4 e6 36 Nc5 N8b7! 7 Ne2 Ne7 37 Nxa6+ Kc8 8 Be3 c5 38 Bg3 e5 9 dxc5 Qxd1+ 39 Nb4 Rc5+ 10 Kxd1 Nd7 40 Kb3 Nxa5+ 11 Bb5 Nc6 41 Ka4 Nac4 12 Nbc3 Ndxe5 42 Kb3 Ra5 13 Kc2 Bd7 43 Rxa5 Nxa5+ 14 Rhd1 Rc8 44 Ka4 Nac4 15 a3 Be7 45 Nxc6 NxbG+ 46 Kb4 f4 17 Kb3 Bf6 47 BD Nd5+ 18 Nf4 h5 48 Kc5 Ne3 19 Rd6 NP7 49 Ba4 Nb7+ 20 Rxd7!? Kxd7 50 Kb4 Rd6 23 Kxc3 Rh6! 53 Bb3 Rd2 54 Bc1 Rc2 55 Bc3 Nxb3 26 b5 Ne5 56 Kxb3 Nxg2 57 Ng6 Re3 28 Bc2 Re7 58 Kc4 Rxf3 59 Bxg7 Ne3+

WITH TWO or even three suits in which it was necessary to develop tricks, the best sequence of play was not easy to deter-

mine here. One thing was certain, however: the line chosen by South was flawed. South opened I no-trumps (15-17 points): North raised directly to game. West led 4 against 3 no-trumps: East took his ace and returned "9 to South's king. Declarer took an immediate club finesse; East won and cleared the hearts Now South could take three clubs, two hearts and two spades but not come to a second winner in diamonds without losing five tricks.

South was surely wrong to take this early club finesse 11 the finesse is right there will always be four tricks in the suit. Also, it was wrong to give East the chance of clearing hearts while West still had an entry. Finally, if the diamonds behave favourably, the club finesse may not be needed. The best line would have

been to cross to #A at trick 3

and lead a low diamond with

60 Kd4 Rg3 0-1 | the intention of finessing the

nine If East goes in with \$\display J\$. South comes to three diamond tricks and does not need the clubs If East plays low, 19 wins and, with an extra diamond trick, South can develop clubs safely (though if a club finesse wins now, it should not be repeated in case East has cunningly allowed # J to win; the spade tricks should be developed). If the finesse of 49

loses to the jack, South falls

leack on the dub finesse.

#### TECHNOLOGY CHANGES but human nature remains the same; which makes for new business opportunities. Ewatch is a firm which monitors the many scuttlebutt, n. aspects of digital communication and reports upon

its clients in chat-rooms and suchlike. This is a transformation

#### WORDS CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE

from the pure to the foul. In any scuttlebutt about the 19th century, a scuttlebuit was a cask with a hole cut in it, origins obscure and distinct from coal-scuttle

ecoutille, hatchway. On deck it held fresh water. In crossing the Atlantic, however, it gained a new connotation gossip exchanged over the scuttlebutt, akin to chat by the picklebarrow. We can perhaps anticipate a time when Ewatch touts a service of monitoring any subversive water-cooler?

but similar to the French

# You ask the questions

(Such as: Ian Botham, are you walking the London Marathon because you are not fit enough to run it?)

an Botham was born in 1955 in Heswall, Cheshire. He made his Test debut in 1977 and is famous for his match-winning performances in the 1981 Ashes series. He captained England in 1980. This autumn he will walk from John O'Groats to Land's End to raise money for the Leukaemia Research Fund (0171-405 0101 for donations). As preparation he will speed-walk the London Marathon on Sunday.

Who do you think is currently the world's best all-rounder?

David Hasell, Thames Ditton There aren't many good all-rounders nowadays, but I think Steve Waugh is probably the best in the world. He is bowling again after injury, and he is definitely the world's number one with the bat. Sean Pollock also has the potential to be the world's best all-rounder. His cricket gets better week by week.

Do you think that the introduction of two leagues in county cricket will produce better results at international level?

Susan Nicholls, Birmingham I certainly do. And I think it is something that's long overdue if we are to improve our game. It should have happened 12 years ago.

Lennox Lewis described you as one of his sporting heroes. Who is your greatest hero, and why? Patrick Lark, London SE11 Jack Nicklaus. To achieve what he has done is amazing. He is the greatest golfer of all time.

Please recommend a red wine K Quinn, Kingston upon Thames A Geoff Merril cabernet from Aus-

tralia, or a Spanish rioja.

I find cricket a very boring game to watch. How would you convert me so that I found it more fun? Sarah Tasker, Chatham

I would try to educate you in the rules of the game. Most people who and your worst characteristics? don't enjoy cricket don't understand how it is played.



Do you think your son, Liam, chose to play rugby as he couldn't compete with you in cricket?

It's not a question of whether Liam can compete with me or not. He would not have been given the chance by the British media to succeed in cricket, as he would always have been compared to me. It has happened to lots of other sporting fathers and their sons. I am glad he has chosen to play rugby and he is doing very well at it.

What do you think are your best Ian Littler Watford I don't suffer fools very well. I'm bas-

Mrs Alison Wilson, Reading

ically intolerant. But I think that I can be very generous, which is probably my best characteristic.

You once said something to the effect that cricket saved you from

a life of crime. Do you still feel that this was the case? If so, what crime had I not played cricket. I would vour crime have been? KM Thomson, Basingstoke

I think it was probably a figure of Do you ever deliberately go out of speech and not meant seriously. I

would have played football instead. your way to irritate people?

Yes I do, if I think they deserve it.

don't think I would have turned to

If you would like to join me to walk Now Bob Woolmer's contract with South Africa is up, do you think he is the man to replace David Lloyd Susan Nicholls, Birmingham Absolutely He's the first person I

reputation when you were young? Harry Faulder, Ipswich I'd say he was having a great time.

Who was the best you played against in your Test career? K Quinn, Kingston-upon-Thomes Viv Richards. He's arguably the best player that ever lived.

Why have you chosen to support the Leukaemia Research Fund? Zoe Stephens, Weymouth

My involvement began about 15 years ago, when I was visiting children in a hospital in Taunton. Some of the children only had a short time to live. Nothing quite prepares you for sitting down with a child you know is going to die. It makes you think of your own children and how you might cope with such a devastating loss. There is a feeling of utter helplessness. But then I realised there was something I could do: I could raise money for research.

What was your wife's reaction to your book, Don't Tell Cath. Do you have many secrets from her?

Caroline Morris, Wiltshire It was Cath's idea to write the book. We don't have any secrets from each other. I asked her to proof-read my book, chapter by chapter.

Do you see Phil Tufnell as the bad boy of cricket nowadays?

Jeffrey Duckett, Derby I think Tufnell is a talent that has not been fulfilled to potential. I think it was a major mistake not taking him to Australia this winter. He's the best left-arm spinner in the country.

Are you walking the London Marathon because you are not fit enough to run it? Bob Threader, Norwich

for five hours at five miles an hour you are very welcome. What job would you ideally like

to have in the English cricket establishment? That's a hypothetical question as I have a long-term contract with Sky TV. I would like to get more involved

THE IRRITATIONS OF MODERN LIFE

BT CALL MINDER BY JAMES MCNAIR



CALL MINDER. Two little words which conjure up an image of a beneficent helper who polices your incoming . calls with conscientious rigour. In theory, BT's digital answering service should provide easy access to your messages via one-word verbal cues. The truth, I've found, is that the virtual secretary who mans this service is a fickle person

whose ears need syringing. "You have two messages would you like to hear them?" she intones with automatoncoolness. I would, of course. so I pronounce the requisite. "yes", taking care to enunciate clearly. (Oversibilant consonants can play havoc.) "Message received at 15.21 today," she continues. Would you like to play that

nessage?" I spit another "Yes", and there's a pregnant pause: four or five seconds of ambient crackle which I've come to associate with cobweb-blasting synapses in Ms Minder's pea-sized brain. "You have now reviewed your call options," she eventually states, ignoring my request.

I think it might be my accent. I've noticed that she seems to get on well enough with my English flatmate. My own more guttural, Scottish tones seem to bring out the political prisoner in her.

Recently, while away, I tried to access my message using our unique four-digit Call Minder code. We'd recently been given a new code for security purposes, and when I tried to check in using the old one, I was denied access. On my return, Call Minder informed me that someone had tried to pick up our messages using the wrong code. "That'll be me," I thought. I suppose I should have been grateful, but something in the smugness of her tone annoyed me.

### NEXT WEEK

KENNETH CLARKE, FOLLOWED BY DAVID BAILEY



**FASHION WEEK LIVE** 

22-25 APRIL 1999 WEMBLEY LONDON

a select few. Now everyone can experience the glamour and excitement of

Fashion Week, with the launch of BBC Fashion Week Live, at Wembley

See designs of the world's leading fashion designers, including Alexander

McQueen, Vivienne Westwood, Pearce Fionda, Jasper Conran and Hussein

Buy the latest styles from over 100 of the top menswear and womenswear

The Vidal Sassoon team, BBC Looking Good, Daniel Field and Andrew Collinge

Celebraties, Search for a Model Competitions, Giveaways and much more

The first 250 Independent or Independent on Sunday readers who call the

ticket hotline will win a pair of tickets to BBC Fashion Week Live. Callers

must state that they are Independent readers to win. If you are not one of

the lucky ones you can book your tickets (£15 plus a £1 booking fee) for this

CALL THE TICKET HOTLINE ON

0870 732 2020

The British Heart Foundation, the UK's leading heart charity, will be

collecting nearly - new donations of clothing from visitors. Look out for

the carrier bag with your tickets, for more details,

unique experience, or for more information.

will all be on site as well as the hottest beauty products available today.

collections, All Saints, Mulberry, InWear, Pepe Jeans Denim Deluxe,

Debenhams, Reebok, Antoni & Alison and Alexander Campbell.

Not forgetting

Conference Centre and Arena, London from 22 - 25 April 1999.

SEND QUESTIONS for the Tory Europhile Kenneth Clarke and fashion photographer David Bailey to: You Ask the Questions, Features, The Independent, 1 Canada quare, London E14 5DL (fax 0171-293 2182, or e-mail yourquestions@independent. co.uk), by 12 noon on Friday 16 April



### as England manager?

would approach.

Nicola Yates. Coventry

What would you do if you found that your son was living up to your with selection of teams, though.

# For richer and richer

Modern marriage is supposed to be a match of equals, so how come rich wives are scheming to take the money and run? By Hettie Judah

WIN ONE OF 250 PAIRS IN THE world of increasingly OF TICKETS TO BBC equal opportunities, if you want to have a really spectacular divorce you're still better off going to Belgravia. The super-rich **FASHION WEEK LIVE** bitches' fascination with the marital departure lounge is hardly surprising, given that it is a drama almost totally concerned with the one thing that You can read about it, you can see it on TV, but London Fashion Week gives them identity and imthe highlight of the fashion calendar, has always been inaccessible to all but portance: c-a-s-h.

This month Harpers & Queen, the parish magazine for the Knightsbridge set, has published a set of instructions lovingly detailing how the adoring spouse can best prepare to screw her husband for every penny he has, should he ever stray from the leash. Suggestions provided by a top divorce lawyer include:

 Live as expensively as possible; your settlement will depend on the standard of life to which you have become accustomed.

2. Photocopy any document you can get your hands on, particularly if it is of tax interest.

3. Track his movements next time you visit Geneva; knowing the banks he visits will help you track down his assets later on. 4. Consider "forum shopping", basing yourself in a

country whose legal system is

sympathetic to the kind of settlement you hope to win. 5. Coerce your husband into giving you a lump sum, which you can then set aside, the better to fund your divorce later if you have no independent

assets with which to hire a legal Rottweiler. 6. Hold a "beauty parade": set up a series of meetings with top divorce lawyers. Once you have paid for their time, confidentiality clauses will prevent them from being able to represent your spouse.

All charming stuff, particularly bearing in mind that this plan of action is to be set in motion before your husband has even started slavering over the hired help or entertaining



Andre and Brooke: did they budget for a split?

your best friend to breakfast. ceptional cases, both of whom To illustrate the necessity of subterfuge, Harpers cites the example of Victoria, former wife of Earl Spencer, who is but it is obvious that neither suing her previous legal firm for negligence. She is claiming that had she sued for divorce in England instead of Cape Town, she could have won a considapplauded for it, however illadvised their actions may seem erably larger settlement. Le beau monde is also shuddering in retrospect. at the ordeals of Jerry Hall, who Given the brevity of the marapproached her divorce so under-prepared that Mick Jagger even managed to cast

doubt on whether they were married at all. These two women are ex-

suffered considerable psychological torment. It is all very well advising them after the act. woman indulged in cynical subterfuge precisely because they were trying to make their marriages work, and they should be

riage between Andre Agassi and Brooke Shields, even though the couple maintain that they are still good friends. it is not impossible that some form of prenuptial divorce

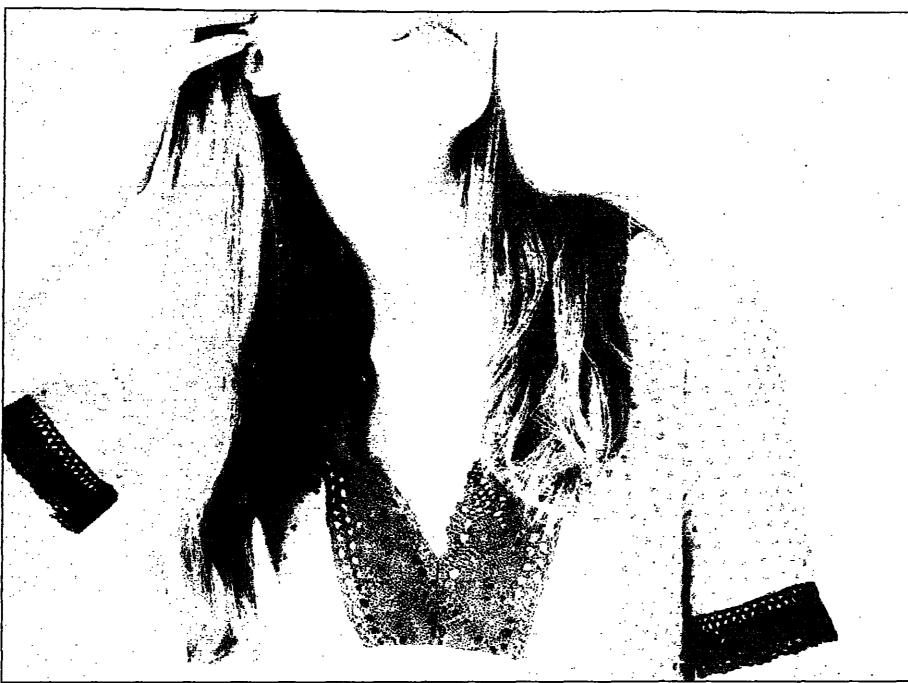
preparation took place. That Horpers & Queen magazine should consider printing such advice casts the role of modern marriage into confusion. The obeisance of Sophie Rhys-Jones aside, the whole Mr and Mrs game is now generally seen as a proper working partnership. Perhaps stimulated by the debate over the special financial needs of single mothers, attitudes toward oldfashioned gender roles have relaxed somewhat in the last few years, and now looking after children, running the home, and oiling the wheels of a spouse's career are again seen as an acceptable life choice for a wife or husband. And God forbid anyone who accuses you of not working.

But if marriage is to be conducted as a business partnership, it seems insane for one of the partners to be investing his or her energy in planning for its destruction. In the real business world it would be absolutely unacceptable to stitch someone up in this manner, not only does it indicate a terminal lack of trust in the partnership, but it is quite simply bad business practice. Nowhere, outside a marriage, will people take all the money and run from a partnership, knowing full well that that meant never being able to work - or, indeed, get married - again. Such behaviour is a throwback to the bad old world where girls didn't have the mouth, education or opportu-

nity to earn themselves a living. Their aptitude for the great divorce marks out the world of the super-rich as the last true repository of Stone Age gender stereotyping, whereby women will still go all out to separate a blonde-loving fool from his money as swiftly as possible, and where, accordingly, men still have cause to believe the worst kind of misogynistic stereotype, that of a lying, cheating wife who is after only one thing



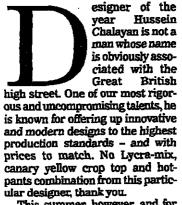
VEDNESDAY REVIEW



Pale blue heart-print dress, £45, by Tracey Boyd for TS Design at Top Shop. 214 Oxford Street. London W1, and stores nationwide. enquiries 0800 731 8284

# It's quality. It's designer. And it's yours for £45

High fashion and high street shops: a marriage for all seasons? By Susannah Frankel



ils. S. co. come rid

B. Hottie Judah

This summer, however, and for the second season running, Chalayan's work will be available at a high street store near you – at Top Shop, to be precise - along with work by Sherald Lamden (the creative talent behind the Seraph label), Tracey Boyd (think pretty, eclectic Londongirl good looks) and London's most feted design duo, Clements Ribeiro. Attracting names such as these is quite a coup: all four designers are perceived as directional; all are also limited to small production runs catering to a fashion-knowledgeable clientele.

Such designer/high street linkups are by now an integral part of this country's fashion infrastructure, however. Without the help of the UK's second largest retailer, Arcadia - the company that owns Top Shop as well as Principles, Racing Green, Evans, and Dorothy Perkins

be able to afford to show. The money they receive for producing capsule collections for the high street, as well as more set aside by Top Shop specifically to sponsor their own twice-yearly collections, helps them to do so.

For Arcadia, meanwhile, the press coverage that such high-profile relationships has by now generated has been worth more than its weight in gold. Not only are designers' names flagged up in-store, earning the chain serious fashion Brownie points, but the Top Shop logo is also very much in evidence

at each designer's show, too. Fashion supporting fashion in this way can, of course, only be a good thing for the consumer. There are very few women, after all, who are willing, or indeed able, to part with hundreds of pounds of their hard-earned cash for designer garments. TS Design - and other designer/high street collaborations like it - at least allows them to buy into the concept.

Jane Shepherdson, brand director at Top Shop, is the woman who oversees the buying and merchandising of TS Design, started in 1997 with Chalayan and Lamden: Clements Ribeiro and Tracey Boyd are new this season.

"We are very keen to link up with designers like these," Shepherdson explains. "In terms of Top Shop's credibility it takes us way for-

ward." She acknowledges, however, that an awful lot of time and energy has gone into the project so far. Where designer clothing is concerned, money, within reason, is no object. For the high street, producing commercial designs, and to a budget, is all important.

'There's been an awful lot of toing and froing," Shepherdson admits, "but we got through it. It's a learning process for both sides and the first ranges in particular took longer than they should have done."

'In terms of Top Shop's credibility, this idea takes us way forward'

It has been a costly, if rewarding, business. For this reason, the TS designer ranges are still around 20 per cent more expensive than the majority of Top Shop merchandise, although they remain far cheaper than the designers' own ranges.

"It was a struggle," agrees ignacio Ribeiro, one part of the Clements Ribeiro team. Clements Ribeiro formerly designed for Dorothy Perkins but, by mutual agreement, have moved this season to Top Shop. "The press were shooting our

clothes and wearing them when we were at Dorothy Perkins, which was great," he says, "but the customer didn't seem to get it." At Top Shop, a mainly teenage clienteie with its finger firmly on fashion's pulse will have no such trouble.

It wasn't until the early-Nineties.

and in response to a post-Eighties design-literate consumer, that the high street saw the potential of designer link-ups. The concept goes back to the Sixties and Geoffrey Wallis, however, who made a name for himself by selling more Chanel suits than most of us have had hot dinners. These were copies of the originals that inspired them, of course. but copies with a difference. Firstly, they were made up directly from patterns bought from the Chanel haute couture atelier in Paris. Secondly. Coco Chanel herself, whose great contribution was perhaps to rid designer fashion of its fussiness and over-elitist approach, took the time to travel to London to help put

the look together. In this, as in many things. Madame Chanel was ahead of her time. Today, it's hardly news that without the designer collections there would be no high street. Chanel realised it would be better for her, Wallis, and the consumer if there was a dialogue between the two and money changed hands.

If this seems only natural, it's not insignificant that it has taken almost 30 years for designer/high street link-

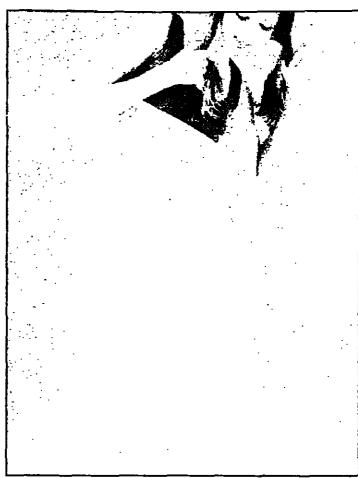
ups to exist on a more widespread basis. That is mainly because British retailing is unusual in that it is dominated by high-street chains (a massive 70 per cent) and a public that has until very recently fixated on low-priced merchandise.

Despite resistance, however, collaborations now exist at Debenhams (where Jasper Conran, Philip Treacy and Lulu Guinness among others design ranges). Marks & Spencer (M&S have been working with Ghost's Tanya Sarne. Betty Jackson, Paul Smith and more for years), and Bhs (Owen Gaster and Paul Frith produce small but perfeetly formed ranges for the store).

is there not a danger, though, that with designer's producing collections on the cheap they will detract from their own far more expensive main lines? "I'm not doing sub-Seraph at a lower price for Top Shop." says Seraph's Sherald Lamden. "The collection is far younger than that, it's also very simple - anything ton subtle gets lost in production."

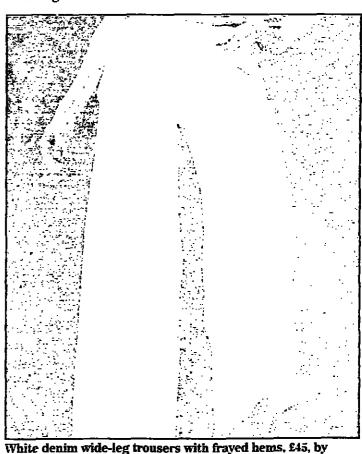
Ribeiro agrees, "We're very careful not to let the range overlap with our own collection, but we have no prejudice against the high street. Sometimes the price of designer clothes is quite sickening. This works for them and it works for us."

Tracey Boyd for TS Design is available now. Hussein Chalayan. Clements Ribeiro and Seraph for TS Design are available from May

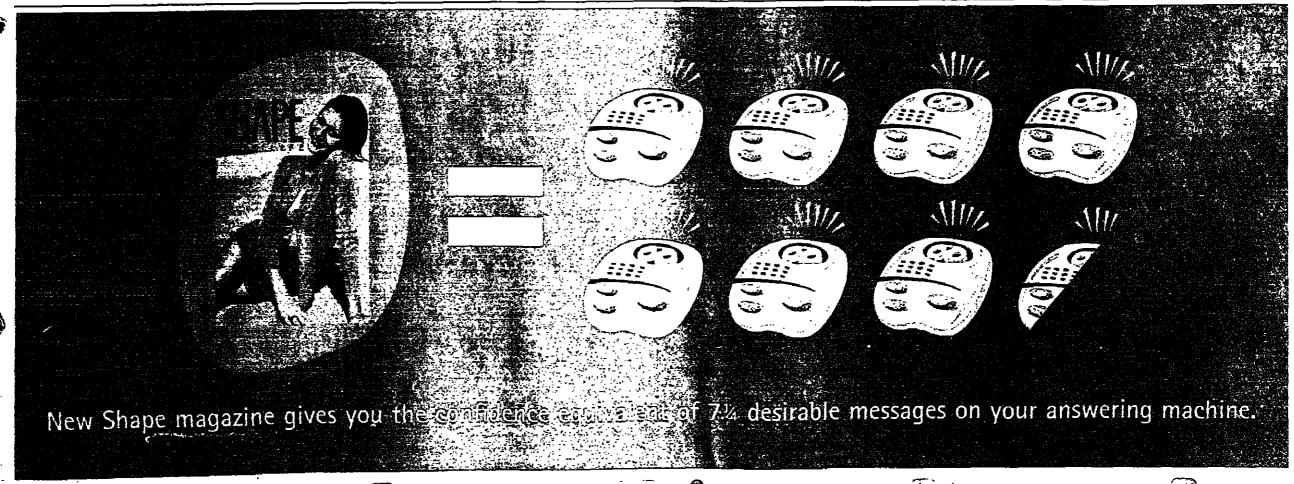


Green-and-yellow stripe jersey vest, £20; white linen pleated skirt, £15, both by Clements Ribeiro for TS Design





Sherald Lamden for TS Design Photographs: Mauricio Guillen



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Last Sunday she won the Bafta Best Actress Award, on Friday her new film, An Ideal Husband, opens and in a fortnight she makes her West End stage debut. And that's just the beginning. David Benedict spoke to the very popular Cate Blanchett

# What Cate did next

he tech is going to be a nightmare." announces Cate Blanchett in her best horror voiceover manner. In the final week of a production everyone moves from rehearsal room into the theatre and actors become the least important people on a show. Weeks of detailed exploration and the building of tension and atmosphere within a play are temporarily cast aside. The cast are merely required to walk through their positions on stage and say the lines at the right speed while the director slowly and methodically takes the crew through every single lighting state and sound cue.

Technical run-throughs are laborious. long-winded and actors hate them. Not Blanchett. "I love the freedom of the tech. It actually liberates you, you feel unwatched. I'm really looking forward to it," she cries, greedily. It's hardly surprising that she's relishing the prospect of having a couple of days to experiment with the role.

The play in question is Plenty, written in 1978 and unquestionably one of David Hare's two or three finest, and her character Susan Traherne - originally written for Hare's then muse, Kate Nelligan barely leaves the stage. Bar a three-week run in an Australian play at the Croydon Warehouse a few years back, Blanchett is an unknown quantity in terms of the British stage. Casting her represents a leap of faith by the Almeida's director, Jonathan Kent, but then that's what this 29-year-old actress inspires.

The film director Gillian Armstrong had been searching for six years for an actress to play the lead in Oscar and Lucinda - Blanchett did a screen test and Armstrong stopped looking. Anthony Minghella saw the finished movie and immediately cast her in his film The Talented Mr Ripley. The character has just two scenes at either end of the picture, but he knew he wanted her. Temporarily nonplussed by being asked exactly what it was about her that so impressed him, Minghella casts about for a reason. "It sounds ridiculous, but it's quite simple: if you have the

chance to work with talent like that, you do." If you add in the news that there are other films in the can, including Pushing Tin, Mike Newell's tale of rival air-traffic controllers, in which she does white-trash comedy in tight trousers, big hair and a push-up bra as Mrs John Cusack, and the headlines are pretty clear. Cate Blanchett

has arrived. on Sunday night when, after losing out to Gwyneth Paltrow at the Oscars and the Golden Globes, she finally received her just deserts with Bafta voting her Best Actress for Elizabeth. Other rising stars in her position would have headed off for poolside Hollywood, which might lead some people possibly including her agent – to wonder what on earth she's doing picking up a company wage in a play in London.

"I never thought that film was somehow making it'. Film-making can sometimes be a little clean, clinical. I like the church hall feel of rehearsals, getting my hands dirty. The other day, on my way to rehearsals, I walked past Sadler's Wells and watched the trucks unloading the scenery through the dock doors. The atmosphere that comes out at you is magical."

This is not the contrived gushing of an actress suddenly determined to grab the kudos of the theatre. She was on stage for 18 months playing Nina in The Second at Belvoir Street theatre, home to Company



Even at drama school, she made waves, her bold choices supported by a self-possession borne out of a solid technique.

Watching her in Elizabeth, the shock is how instantaneously you believe this Australian actress to be Tudor royalty. Meeting her in the flesh, she seems slighter, with an almost fleeting sense of presence. And B. Sydney's most exciting theatre company. she says that's surprising, it's the way she makes her so mesmerising on screen.

says it. The voice is low and calm, offsetting the fragility of her complexion. Light streams in through the window catching the shifting planes of her face. Braque would have envied the lines of her cheekbones and jawline, but there's nothing cold or chiselled about her look. It's merely that there's an elegance about her which comes then she opens her mouth. It's not what from quiet self-possession, which is what

Even when watching her in close-up, she seems taller than she is because her centre of gravity is so low. It's all about relaxation. All of which comes in useful when playing high-status roles such as the Queen of England or Lady Chiltern in Oscar Wilde's An Ideal Husband, her lat-

opportunity it was, or how much they wanted to work with so-and-so. Blanchett's reason for doing this film? "I was really interested to see if such heightened dialogue could be played naturalistically." est film, which is released on Friday. Most actor than watching her or him "think". Put

Nothing is more illuminating about both the qualities and the quality of a screen actors, when asked about their choice of a weak actor in front of the lens and they'll roles, will tell you what a great part or display puzzlement with, say, a furrowed

brow, confusion with a tilt of the head doubt with a widening of the eyes. If the edits surrounding such displays are strong enough this empty acting style can prove effective.

However, watching Blanchett play the complex comedy at the climax of An Ideal Husband is something else altogether She's the focus of a scene in which everyone brings in fresh revelations, forcing her to revise her opinions and think very fast. But instead of opting for a simple external approach, she takes the much more exciting (and exacting) choice of presenting an impassive exterior while managing to convey Lady Mabel's inner turnoil as she is forced to compromise her ideals and lie to her husband. No wonder the camera holds her in tight close-up, her eyes darting about in disguised terror. This is not "thinking" acting: Blanchett is responding to what is happening inside her character.

Actors are often castigated for supposedly airy talk about being "in the moment", but that's precisely where Blanchett's characters live. You never get the sense that she's trying to impress by showing off how she can achieve an effect. In career terms, she's disgracefully clear-headed about the thorny issue of reading (and believing) your own press. Does she read the ever increasing mountain of press coverage? She sighs. "I try not to... but as someone said to me, 'trying is lying'. Of course, it's fan-tastic if you get great reviews but they're like lotteries: they're great if you win and a terrible sham if you lose. People tell me not to be self-deprecating but I think I have to gloss over the good in the same way that I have to gloss over the bad.
"The great thing about Plenty is that

there is a genuine amount of trust within the company. We're all trying to do something together," she insists, observing that the play is as much about her husband's character - played by Julian Wadham - as it is about her own. "Whether we succeed or not, we can't tell. You can't plan for success, of course, but equally you also don't want to plan for failure by not taking risks and not opening up things which you worry you might fall flat on your face for doing." She beams. "That void you feel opening up beneath you... I find that quite exciting."

She apologises - unnecessarily - for being inarticulate, but the only point on which she's truly vague is the future. Her agent is bemused by the fact that she's barely half-way through a hot script she's had for more than over two weeks. "It takes me so long to decide. I need time to digest things. There's a lot of stuff out there, I guess, but I find it too disappointing when I feel I'm in things for the wrong reasons. Luckily it's only happened to me once or twice. So I'd rather wait."

In the meantime, she's done a runthrough of Plenty in front of David Hare, which makes the press night seem less daunting. Her only real frustrations at the moment are the expectations of the world from which she's made a temporary escape. "I get very frustrated with the fact that in film people are still very surprised if women my age can do something other than what they look like they can do. I knew after The Seagull that I really wanted to do something where people can demand a lot of me, push me beyond where I think I can go. I love being directed. I don't take it personally if someone says, 'Oh, I didn't like that'. It makes you search more. Maybe that's why I continue to do this."

Plenty' previews at the Albery Theatre (0171-369 1730) from tomorrow; An Ideal Husband' opens on Friday

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# Voices from another world The sour turns to sweet

THERE IS no raucous crowing from Chanticleer. The occasional billing and cooing, perhaps. Yet the singing of the 12-man San Francisco-based vocal ensemble, which has just embarked on its latest tour of France, Germany, Austria and Israel, is, as the late songsmith Harold Arlen might have put it,

quite simply "Out of this world". Its publicity is gloriously unhyped, its delivery intimate and inspired, and its presentation never unctuous or overslick. But Chanticleer invites superlatives. During its 21 years of existence, and with as many discs to its credit, it has most subtle, refined, intelligent and invigorating a capella choirs. Its top line high-riding counter-tenors who effortlessly encompass the upper soprano range - partly justments in the Brazilian José er Bernard Rands (b 1934) ded-

CLASSICAL CHANTICLEER SYMPHONY HALL

BIRMINGHAM

accounts for its unique sound. Yet the ensemble's blending never cramps or obscures the distinctive colouring of the in-

The group's repertoire is wide, spanning from European (Morales, Josquin, Brumel, Palestrina) and Mexican renaissance to Stephen Foster, Songs - one ("The Rub of gospel, spirituals and contemporary American, including a ontic, the other ("Alas, the love clutch of specially commisemerged as one of the world's sioned works, three of which proved highlights of Chanti-cleer's Sunday concert at Birmingham's Symphony Hall - only their third in Britain to date.

If the stylish, dynamic ad-

ingenuous simplicity of Farrant's "Call to Remembrance" proved more alluring than some rather straitjacketed Byrd and Weelkes, it was the 20th-century extracts which fired the imagination: the Chinese-born Chen Yi's "Wild Grass", with its folklike filigree dividual, underlying solo voices. of spiralling and weaving repeated upper voice patterns (shades of Meredith Monk); two extracts from Augusta Read Thomas's 12-part Love Love") a pithy, short Anacre-

Garcia's "Crux Fidelis" or the

parody encompassing clustering close-harmonies, vocal strumming and ironic cackles. It was to Read Thomas that the US-based. British-born Pulitzer prizewinning compos-

of women!") a wittily contrived

icated his Canti d'Amor, 15 beautifully evocative settings of Yeats, including two sung here with rare empathy, poise and subtlety of shading: "All day I hear the noise of waters making moan" and the solo-led "Sleep now".

Matthew Alber's fluent, gorgeously sustained soprano solo brought a nerve tingling poignancy to "Sometimes I feel like a motherless child", one of the three spirituals arranged by Joseph Jennings, Chanticleer's enabling music director of 15 years. Tim Krol's colourful Gaelic delivery of the Irish encore "Dulaman" ("Seaweed") supplied the final icing on the cake.

RODERIC DUNNETT

Chanticleer's new CD, The Colors of Love', has just been issued by Teldec Classics

IN THE Cranberties' press, one catechismal fact stands out: unlike Oasis, unlike Blur even, the provincial Irish fourpiece, led by Dolores O'Riordan, cracked the States. Forget O'Riordan's voice (a formidable instrument blighted by the tonal ambition of a car alarm) or the persistently clod-hopping "political" commentary (no Kosovo anthem yet, thankfully)
- all sins are absolved by the balm of US success. Criticism, in other words, is redundant when the band's three albums thus far have notched up glob-

graced the Celt-pop of their

al sales of 28 million. The eve of their new album, Bury the Hatchet, finds The Cranberries trying to re-create the circumstances that gave birth to "Linger", their sublime, lilting breakthrough hit which they've never come close to surpassing. Since a gruelling tour schedule led to their effective break-up three years ago, O'Riordan has had a baby band knew relieved them of any and retreated, along with the rest of the band, to the group's showmanship duties. home town, Limerick. It shows on Bury the Hatchet. Though they're far from rediscovering the alchemical touch that

POP THE CRANBERRIES SHEPHERD'S BUSH

ful Departed, a cacophonous mess, is behind them.

The Shepherd's Bush Em-

**EMPIRE** 

LONDON

pire was an adroit choice, too. It was intimate enough to accommodate the new, more reflective material, and big enough (though barely) to house the strident rockers with which The Cranberries reached even the most insulated hospitality suites of the stadia they regularly played in the mid-Nineties. Sporting a blonde fringe and clad in black, O'Riordan looked like a militant Nolan sister, zipping to and fro in a splay-footed jig the entire night. She exuded an entirely natural stage presence, a compelling quality the rest of the

As ever, O'Riordan's distinctive vocal hitchkick provided a handy barometer for the quality of the songs. Its folky inflection finds a natural 1992 debut album, Everybody's home in the group's more lyri-Doing It, So Why Con't We?, at cal songs. "Promises", their latleast the dross of To the Faith- est single, offered a good



Dolores: the air of a militant Nolan sister Steve Gillett

example. Initially beguiling, O'Riordan somehow contrived to sound like a keening Tellytubby by its conclusion.

It's not as though she hasn't a crisp, tight band behind her. It's just that while dictating the performance, she also overshadowed them. "Linger" met with a rapturous reception, but even here O'Riordan sounded bored with her own melodic skill, barking at the crowd to "Sing it!".

"Saving Grace" or the elegant "Human Being" were far

more intricate, satisfying efforts than the dunder-headed anti-Troubles dirge "Zombie" or the out-and-out rant "Delilah". She may have criticised the likely successors to the Cranberries' crown, the Corrs, for a lack of raunch, but it's obvious which songs the svelte sisters from Dundalk have learnt from.

MIKE HIGGINS

A version of this review appeared in later editions of yesterday's рарет

'This is ENO at its very, very best, vividly focused, dramatically direct...not to be missed' <sup>o</sup> Salome

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E WEDNESDAY REVIEW

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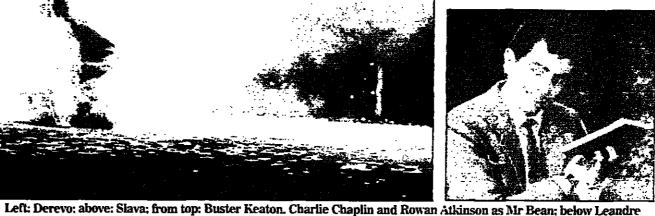
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# End of the pierrot show

Big shoes, little cars, custard pies: clowns have an image problem with the over-fives. But now our red-nosed chums have discovered tragi-comedy. And rebranded themselves as performance artists. By Clare Bayley

Polunin. Before Slava, clowns were universally reviled. Red noses, big m of here. Then one or two critics went resentfully along to the Hackney Empire thinking that their reviewing days were certainly over if their editor was sending them off to Hackney to see a clown. A Russian clown. But Slava performed a magic trick on the whole lot of us, and when the fabled Snowshow was over, we and 1,000 other audience members stayed in our seats, bewitched, bouncing giant balloons around the auditorium.

The Hackney Empire's Roland Muldoon booked Polunin "sight unseen" for three nights, and has been worshipping the god of theatre fortune ever since. The crowd doubled each night purely on word of mouth. "The audience was looking for something different. I felt the same. I'm more rewarded by that than by a lot of stand-up. I can see clowning becoming a very popular medium," Muldoon says.

Most people would rather visit the dentist than watch a clown show, but Muldoon has put his money where his mouth is and dubbed 1999 Year of the Clown at the Hackney Empire. But there are strictly no custard pies, and no Marcel Marceau either. Instead, from Catalonia, comes Leandre, a prankster of consummate physical skill, and from Russia via Dresden

Edinburgh Festival with Once.

The refreshing thing about both s they become crude and often unfunny. The great clowns, from Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton to Jacques Tati and Jean-Louis Barrault, used pathos as much as humour, and inspired their audience with compassion, even empathy, rather than the contempt or fear often felt for circus clowns. Slava's Snowshow opens with the familiar yellow- and red-costumed figure shuffling sadly on carrying a noose. His attempt to hang himself is tragically thwarted by the fact that there's another clown on the other end of it, also trying to hang herself.

Clowns who achieve this bittersweet combination are internationally popular because they are trading in universal human emotion, rather than just comedy, which is culturally very specific. Muldoon cites the case of Amazon tribes laughing uproariously at Chaplin films, while a modern clown, like Mr Bean, is laughed at in 17 languages. Slava Polunin claims there are 10 great stage clowns in the world, and Muldoon is on the hunt for them.

"It wasn't until I saw Jean-Louis Barrault in Les Enfonts du Porodis that I understood what clowning can be if it isn't restricted by comedy. Good clowns are like Blues musicians, they're free to stay within a theme but improvise around it. It come Derevo, the electrifying works each time, but differently.

to be live - you can't do it on telly." One of the 10, he is sure, is Le-

t all started with Slava troupe who wowed last year's They play off the audience and it has ity," he explains. But the key to his Keaton. "That theatre has got popularity is, as Muldoon identifies, his connection with the public. "The these acts is that they're not just andre. A master of ingenuity and show always changes in response checky trousers, red there to make you laugh. When transformation, he has moved from to the audience," he says. "I'm restreet busking in his native ally there every time, and anything Barcelona to international touring can happen. If I get distracted by

> 'Audiences don't accept fiction so much any more, so most clowns play with reality

in large, proscenium-arch theatres. something in the audience, it's not His major assets are his face and body, over which he has total manipulative control. He uses them unadorned by make-up, red nose or baggy pants, but refers back to clochard style of

clowning with an old suit which is slightly ill-fitting and crum-His skill as a physical

performer is matched by () his imagination. He does use props - umbrellas turn into butterflies, crinolines. the wheels of various vehicles; a roll of masking-tape becomes the various instruments in a jazz band, and then a partner in tango. But he doesn't need props. It's the power of suggestion that presents us with the constipated man who proudly wears his turds on his shoulders like epaulettes.

"Audiences don't accept fiction so much any more, so most clowns don't play with fiction, they play with realannoying like it is in a play it's a

chance for me. We build this show together, the audience and me, and we go as far as we can." Leandre sees himself as part of an eclectic tradition which incorporates

Marx Brothers. Chaplin, Cyrano de Bergerac. Steven Berkoff. Robin Williams, Jim

Carev. commedia dell'arte... "I accept and show my influences. obvious they're there," he says, It's particularly poignant for him to work at the Hackney Empire. which has hosted some of the greats of that tradition, including Chaplin in his early days. Stan Laurel, WC

magic," concurs Leandre. "I don't know how or why, but in the wings

though similar, tradition, rounding member Anton Adassinsky worked in Slava's Licedei clown troupe for several years before branching out with his own company. But Anton shares some of Polimin's almost obsessional research into the business. When Slava was preparing to go professional, he allegedly spent two years in a library reading about clowning and studying 91 videos of Chaplin movies. Anton gathered a group of 50 students together and embarked on a year of 16-hour days, going through 200 exercises to achieve a state of mental and physical purity. By the end of the year, five of the 50 remained, and they are the core Derevo.

"I once saw a book which had documentary photos of psychiatric patients," says Anton by way of explanation. They had such strong eves - it was an old book with bad print, but such energy came out of the eyes. I thought, if such power can come just from paper, how is it possible to do it on stage?" The resulting performance was Red Zone, a violent, expressionistic piece which won the admiration of avant-gardistes, including the producer Michael Morris. "They are genuinely, alarmingly anarchic, and provide a much-needed antidote to the highly-drilled chaos of, say. The Wooster Group or Jan Fabre," said and Buster Morris at the time.

Once, which comes to the Hacknev Empire at the end of April, is a far gentler affair, though it still taps into the primal emotions of an au-Derevo emanate from a different. dience. "We realised that people still need lytical clowns and love stories. says Anton. Once weaves a tale of the doomed love of a beak-nosed janitor (played by Anton) for a doll-like beauty in a café. For his performance. Anton dons the white face. false nose and outsized shoes of the

traditional clown, though the show

itself transcends this tradition.

He sees the make-up as having the effect of a mask. "It's very powerful. It's bigger than the performer, it changes you and it changes the audience. It brings the feeling of fairytale, it brings imagination which doesn't exist in the world. For me, if a clown is just human, it's not really a clown. It has to be able to break through to another world." That world is one which makes people laugh in spite of their suffering. "If we lose this, we lose everything," says Anton.

If audiences can overcome their prejudices and tap into the transformative spirit of clowning rather than its superficial and debased aspects, perhaps the millennium-old form will again become truly popular. Like stand-up, but with depth and diversity.

Leandre: Thurs to Sun; Derevo: 27 Apr to 9 May, both at the Hackney Empire. London ES. A series of clowning workshops will also be held, for further information, call the box office: 0181-985 2424

# **Taking** care of No 1

THEATRE

BEGIN AGAIN APCHES THEATRE GLASGOW

SELF-SEEMING POWER games set against more compassionate or collectivist aspirations form a common central thread in these very different plays.

Pinter's first major hit was written and set some 40 years ago, as the post-Second World War consensus buckled under more individualistic pressures, while KtC's latest production, devised by the director Guy Hollands and the writer David Harrower, takes a present day look at the austerity years of the late Forties, when that sense of shared national purpose approached its high water mark.

Under Andy Arnold's direction. the Arches company has built a reputation for Pinter, and the current show sustains its predecessors' quality. Characterisation is the key with which the three-strong cast open up the play's microcosmic world, the junk-filled bedsit owned by the would-be wheeler-dealer Mick (Paul Riley), occupied by his trustingly vulnerable brother, Aston (Ross Stenhouse: a former asylum inmate, and invaded by the tramp. Davies (Andrew Dallmeyer).

The performances evoke the vacuum beneath the surface of all three lives, as they cling to their various postures and pipe-dreams in the hope of gaining advantage.

This sense of underlying pain or desperation gives an emotional heart to the production that balances the action's aura of meanness and menace, offering a glimpse of hope in the possibility of mutual understanding, even if it is unrealised.

Begin Again's title resonates on at least two levels, encapsulating both the idea of a fresh start that followed the end of the Second World War, and the play's Jekyll-and-Hyde device of following the same character through two contrasting chains of choice and action, operating initially in reverse - from the moment of the protagonist's death - then running in the opposite direction.

We first meet John Morrison (Jain Macrae) as an idealistic foot soldier in the campaign to win the peace. full of the joys of national unity and the new welfare state in his job as a civil service clerk. His second incarnation finds him disillusioned with the privations of rationing. We see him setting out as a black-market dealer, with his only ambition to maximise his share of the spoils.

It's an elegant conceit, elegantly executed through a mix of voice-over and brief dramatised scenes, with noir-ish lighting emphasising the production's stylistic debt to films of the period. Its central aim seems to be to examine the historical realities of an era often obscured by nostalgia, while echoing the triumph of out-for-vourself materialism under Thatcherism.

In its present form, however, the piece is too slight to support such ambitions, despite vigorous performances all round. It largely fails to depict any wider social context around Morrison's life, at a time when family and community pressures were still cohesively powerful. while the pessimistic import of its narrative conclusion seems rather too glibly cynical.

SUE WILSON

'The Caretaker'. 10 24 Apr. 0141-221 4001: Begin Again' touring to Edinburgh and Paisley to 20 Apr. 0141-445 6000

### ON THE FRINGE

MENOPAUSAL GENTLEMEN DRILL HALL, LONDON **III 400 JOKES WITH THE DEVIL LYRIC STUDIO**, LONDON

FROM THE moment Peggy Shaw swaggers on to the stage in her pinstripe suit and eyes the audience up knowingly, you know you're in for one helluva show. The pose is a cross between James Dean and Marlon Brando, the identity is butch lesbian, and the subject is - well, what else could it be? - the menopause.

For the next threequarters of an hour, Shaw talks, sings and growls her way through the physical battle that inside her body. This is vulnerability at its most macho: "There's a beast inside me," she snarks, "wearing out grooves on my floor." Shaw revels in the irony that for a woman who wears her masculinity not only on her sleeve, but also in the cut of her trousers, the menopause is not the first

battle her body has had to fight. "I'm a 53-year-old woman who passes for a 35year-old man," she shrugs. "It's a trade-off. I sacrifice being a woman for youth." The setting is an almost

empty, black stage. In place of props, Shaw furnishes her monologue with a rich. raw language that takes f rom songs ranging from "I'm a Man" to "My Way." and adds its own kind of poetry. For example, her knowingly absurd rendition of Nina Simone's "In the Dark" - in which first her scurrying feet and then her hands are highlighted from the pitch black by small torches winking out from her trouser-legs and sleeves - is followed later by a moving yet humorous account of the distilled terror that surges up on lier in the small hours, when insomnia in the dark



brings her face to face with her ageing process. "It's 4am - the hour of the wolf." she growls. The line is

typical of the restless "in-

your-face" energy that

powers the show, aggressively making the audience laugh at the same time as it wakes it up to intimate moments of her

Shaw's masterly manipulation of stage space cuts a sharp contrast with the cluttered set of 400 Jokes With the Devil. The set is a partial warning for what follows: an overambitious attempt to document the controversial travels of the Russian filmmaker Sergei Eisenstein though Mexico in 1929

In this production the devil is in the detail. The play drags while the plot laboriously spells out every hitch and tantrum Eisenstein went through while making his unfinished: lyrical and haunting representation of Mexican life and its rituals in Que Viva Mexico. It is perhaps inevitable in a play that documents a love affair with film that the stage comes off the worse

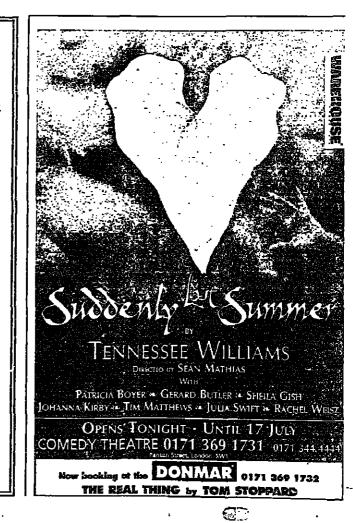
of the two media. In a

single shot. Eisenstein's

portrayals of, say, a peasant at a temple or a cactus at the roadside convey more in a few seconds about his thought processes and experiences of Mexico than this play can in more than two hours.

This said, there are redeeming elements. The music is excellent, and the east gives a nuanced and sensitive performance of Ben Livingstone's arrangements of both Russian and Mexican songs, Hannah Young stands out from the cast as a versatile performer. But she, rather like Eisenstein's films, is perhaps better seen in another context. RACHEL HALLIBURTON

'Menopausal Gentleman'. to 17 Apr. 0171-637 8270: '400 Jokes with the Devil to 17 Apr 0181-741 8701



# Anger motivates me

I WORK FOR...

SHEENA MACDONALD IS PA TO NICK HARDWICK, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE REFUGEE COUNCIL



Sheena MacDonald: 'It is very encouraging to hear the stories of refugees who have managed to rebuild their lives against the odds'

Tom Craig

riginally I trained as a physiotherapist, but decided it would be fairer all round if I didn't ractice. Instead, i joined an action group which campaigned against asbestos use and went on to work in a woman's centre in Paisley as a clerical bookkeeper and information and advice worker. It was when I moved to London to spend four and a half years working as a branch administrator for Unison in Tower Hamlets that I first got involved with immigration and refugee cases and understood the issues at stake.

I have only been here for two and a half months; I experienced a vertical learning curve on arrival be- the agenda, which is why the Kosocause there is so much that Nick is vars already over here have an iminvolved in. For example, my first portant part to play. We are also task was to call the Home Secretary's office to try to get a meeting to make sure that all refugees would between him and Nick extended. I be offered suitable accommodation quaked but Nick said to me: "People who don't make mistakes don't for people to be is at home in safety

me know of the things that go wrong, or cover them up so well that I don't know about them, then we will be fine." It was such a relief to know that he was so calm to work with.

At the moment, Nick is involved in discussions with the Home Office about the Kosovar refugee crisis and how the Government might respond. We have been asked to work on contingency plans for the arrival of Kosovar refugees to the UK, but we do not know if or when refugees may arrive or how many to expect. This makes it very difficult for us and one of my key tasks is to ensure that staff who are being drafted in to help from other refugee agencies can feel their way around here.

"Family reunion is very much on and support. Clearly the best place

then European governments should be responding to the crisis in a positive and generous way.

People can see from the pictures of Kosovar refugees that they are ordinary people with ordinary lives who are caught up in an extraordi-

One local paper in the UK even referred to asylum-seekers as 'dross' which should be 'washed down the drain'

putting pressure on the Government nary situation. I think from the huge number of calls the Refugee Council has had that people are sympathetic to their plight. Unfortunately, they are sometimes

the UK - one local paper even referred to asylum seekers as "dross" which should be "washed down the drain". I can't imagine how it must have felt for my refugee colleagues to read that. Actually, most refugees are educated and desperately want to rebuild their lives despite the trauma they have been through.

"Since I have arrived we've been campaigning on the new Immigration and Asylum Bill. One of its measures will leave asylum-seeking children living on 50p a day. Will this leave asylum-seekers with respect

"I recently met a number of newly arrived refugees at one of our diplomatic. We are all working to get advice centres which was when the the best deal for refugees. I guess real horror of their situation hit me. Fve always been politically moti-Released from prison-like conditions within detention centres with no money, no English and often just the clothes they stood up in, they had had to find their way to us in Lon- work, satisfaction is what counts. My don without help. It is, however, very encouraging to hear the stories of refugees who have managed to re- cause I feel strongly about. make anything, so as long as you let and dignity, but if that isn't possible portrayed in a very negative way in build their lives against the odds.

The Ugandan Asians are a good example, some of whom were listed last week as among the most successful of British business people.

I tried to switch off over Easter but I found that I had to turn on the television and radio to see what was happening. Since Nick is constantly at interviews as well as at meetings with refugee organisations, agencies, MPs and supporters, one of my key responsibilities is to make sure that he has time in between all his meetings to sit down and de-brief.

Anger is motivating but it's important to channel it, so all my colleagues are very level headed and vated, my family have put up with a lot of rantings and ravings. Ive always been very clear that profit shouldn't be my main motive for job at the Refugee Council is a chance to do something about a INTERVIEW BY KATTE SAMPSON

# A story of love and hate

I HAVE a recording of Billie Holliday singing "When Love Goes Wrong (Nothing Goes Right)". I think Marilyn Monroe sang it originally, but with Billie's piteous tones it's positively suicidal, the sort of song you play at four in the morning when The Smiths have got boring.

Since I started working with Doug and Hannah, this song never seems to be far from my mind. When one of them stalks across the floor, Billie starts to croak in my ear, and keeps on until they have receded into the distance. Nothing has been said overtly, but it's as obvious as crisps trodden into the carpet that, though it may have been a good party, it's over, and the participants are suffering from sick hangovers that they have every intention of inflicting on each other.

Get this: day one, and I'm hunting for a phone list, working out where the "on" switch is on the computer, pulling up old correspondence files in the hope of working out a standard letter layout, when Doug arrives. "Where is she?" he says. "Who?" I ask. "Hannah Monckton," he says. "Oh," I say, "She's got a breakfast meeting." To which he heaves a sigh and says "Oh, yeah, the old breakfast meeting. Tell her to contact me immediately she gets in." And off he marches.

At 10am, Hannah comes in looking well-fed and cheerful. We make acquaintance, and I relay Doug's message. <u>Hannah</u>'s face clouds over

"Thanks," she says. "Til contact him when I'm free." And she, too, stalks off.

10:30am: the phone rings: Doug. "Is Hannah there yet?" Yes. She said to tell you that she'll get in touch when she has a moment," I say; I've long since become a past master at making palatable the charm of my seniors. "No," he says, "Tell her to call me immediately." 10.31am: Hannah: "Tell Mr

Me-Me-Me Forster to stuff it." 10.32am: "Hello, Mr Forster, Hannah is in a meeting right now. She'll be in touch as soon as she can."

10.35am: Doug passes my desk at a rate of knots. 10.36am: Doug and Hannah

pass back in the opposite direction, she walking at an even greater pace than his. He touches her wrist; she shakes it off like a horse swatting a fly. 10.37am: Door to stairs bangs shut.

10.42am: Door to stairs bangs open again, slams



behind Doug, who is purple in

10.42am plus 30 seconds: Door to stairs opens quietly and Hannah emerges looking grimly triumphant. I thought at first that this

was a simple personality clash. then began to suspect some darker harassment question. But, as I said, the signs are there if you're looking. For under all the rage, the attempts at sabotage, the frostiness, there's a familiarity you find only in people who know each other very, very well. They hiss into each other's faces from so close up they are almost kissing, make personal comments ("I told you that was the wrong sort of briefcase"; "You *alloays* say that when you know you're in the wrong"; "Well, it's probably in the car. That's where it was last time"), know each other's personal. habits ("Lunch? Where is she? Giovanni's, I suppose?") in a way that they could only if they'd shared lives at some point.

Wednesday, Hannah calls in sick. "Are you OK?" I ask, "Can I do anything for you?" "No," she croaks, "It's some sort of flu thing. It's been coming on for days. Just hold the fort, will you?" "Sure," I say, start shoring up those arrow slits.

Doug turns up soon after "Ill?" He says? "Well, that's just typical, isn't it?" He turns on SH ST

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his heel and walks away. A few minutes later, he's back. "What did you say was wrong with her?" "Flu, I think. She sounded pretty croaky." He thinks for a moment.

"Maybe I should call her." "Sure." I start to look for her number, but he's already picked up the phone and dialled it from memory. Drums his fingers, twitches when the phone is answered.

"Hannah?" he says, "It's me. I hear you're ill." Then he turns his back and hunches into the phone, as if this will stop me hearing what he says next. "Shall I come over tonight? I think we ought to talk..." He listens, then says, quite gently, "Mm. Me too." Hangs up and, with a watery smile, returns to his desk.

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VEDNESDAY REVIEW



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10.42am plus 30 secondo Deer to stairs opens quiely and Harner emerges looking grindy trumphant I thought at first that the

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MIGHTY JOE YOUNG (PG, 114 mins)

# CINEMA · THEATRE · EXHIBITIONS · MUSIC · DANCE · LITERATURE · COMEDY · EVENTS · TV & RADIO

BEDROOMS & HALLWAYS (15, 96 mins) Director: Rose Trache

Starring: Kevin McKidd, Jermiler Ehle Bedrooms & Hullways, the latest offering from the This Life school of British film-making, sees Kevm McKidd's giddy Londoner being put through all manner of romantic hoops in the run-up to his 30th birthday. Kev's orientation arrow spins from gay to straight, his mates offer endless advice. and Simon Callow pops up as a New Agey men's group leader. Rose Troche's smooth direction and Mckidd's winsome acting compensate for

West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine. UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket. Reportory: The Pullman Everyman

A CIVIL ACTION (15, 115 mins) Director: Steven Zarbani

THE FACULTY (15, 104 mins)

an often smug and lightweight script.

Starring: John Travoita, Robert Duvall John Travolta's ambulance-chasing lawyer takes a shot at redemption in this complex and frequently absorbing courtroom saga that nonetheless raises inevitable comparisons with Sidney Lumet's The Verdict. Culled from a true story, A Civil Action spins a David-and-Goliath-style drama, in which blue-collar locals go head to head with the

big corporations who poisoned their water. Zaillian negotiates the legal intricacies with ingenuity. West End: Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

**Director**: Robert Rodriguez Starring: Elijah Wood, Shawn Hatosy See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

**HIGH ART (18, 101 mins)** Director: Lisa Cholodenko Starring: Ally Sheedy, Radha Mitchell See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Curzon Soho, Ritzy Cinema, Screen

Director, Robert Lepage

**NEW FILMS** 

Starring: Anne-Marie Cadieux, Alexo Martin Lepage's third feature obliquely spotlights Quebec's push for independence in 1970 with an absurdist parallel narrative that crosscuts between the trials of a troubled actress and her activist boyfriend. But its fascinating elements fail to gel; its scenes unravel; its reach exceeds its grasp. West End: ABC Swiss Centre, Barbican Screen

ORGAZMO (18, 90 mins) Director: Trey Parker Starring: Trey Parker

Orgazmo looks like the love-child of Boogie Nights and Flesh Gordon: a gambolling send-up of the porn industry. Parker stars as a Mormonturned-skin-flick-superstar, Robin Lynne plays the fiancee who stumbles upon his guilty secret. West End: Plaza

THE RED VIOLIN (15, 130 mins) Director: François Girard

Starring: Samuel L Jackson, Greta Scaechi Girard's daisy chain of historical vignettes follows the course of a cursed violin down through the centuries. Unfortunately, a thrift-shop budget leaves many of the period backdrops looking like cast-offs from a BBC schools programme. More crucially. Girard's bitty narrative leaves his film labouring in third gear throughout.

West End: Barbican Screen, Odeon Haymarket. Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage. Local: Hampstead ABC

**SLAM** (15, 99 mins) Director: Marc Levin

Starring: Saul Williams, Sonia Sohn

Even if slam-poetry's clanking rhymes make you want to "slam" the perpetrator's head in a car door, Marc Levin's drama still carries an emotional force. Saul Williams plays an Afro-American Everyman, busted on a drugs charge before finding freedom of expression through his rap stylings. Levin's story is preachy and simplistic: earthy and earnest. Much like slam-poetry itself. West End: Metro, Ritzy Cinema, Local: Holloway Odeon, New Stratford Picture House

Xan Brooks

# GENERAL RELEASE

AMERICAN HISTORY X (18, 119 mins) A liberal essay on right-wing fanaticism, this as it charts the moral slide of a blue collar racist (Edward Norton). But it does boast a stunning performance from Oscar-nominated Norton. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys,

Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas ARLINGTON ROAD (15, 117 mins) Mark Pellington's intriguingly staged paranoia thriller sees Jeff Bridges' college prof becoming suspicious about the antics of his outwardly

respectable neighbour (Tim Robbins). West End: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas AN AUTUMN TALE (CONTE D'AUTOMNE)

(U, 111 mins) Eric Rohmer's new romantic drama is airily elegiac and as warm as sunshine. West End: Chelsea Cinema, Curzon Soho, Renoir

BLAST FROM THE PAST (12, 109 mins) Hugh Wilson's Cold War satire begins promisingly enough, but it soon nosedives into brash predictability. With Alicia Silverstone and Brendan Fraser West End: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

CENTRAL STATION (15, 110 mins) Central Station trails Fernanda Montenegro's retired schoolteacher and her abandoned nine-yearold charge on a hunt for the boy's missing father. West End: Curzon Mayfair, Gate Notting Hill, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street

FESTEN (THE CELEBRATION) (15, 106 mins) Filmed using natural light, natural sound and a hand-held camera, Festen begins in a rush of pure, unfettered drama. Its rawness is largely contrived, but by the end you're too hooked to care. West End: ABC Panton Street

GODS AND MONSTERS (15, 110 mins) See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Screen on the Hill, The Tricycle Cinema, Virgin Fulham Road Local: New Stratford Picture House

HILARY AND JACKIE (15, 121 mins) Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustain wartsand all biopic of the Du Pré sisters, Hilary (shy, married flautist) and Jacqueline (world-famous cellist). West End: ABC Ponton Street

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (LA VITA E BELLA)

(PG, 116 mins) Roberto Benigni's comedy, in which the writerdirector stars as a clowning Jewish bookseller in fascist Italy, West End: ABC Swiss Centre, Clophom. Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Gate Notting Hill, Curzon Minema, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Boker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket. And local cinemas

Mighty Joe is a mutant gorilla, who hangs out in the African jungle with his Tarzan-type protector. Disney fluff, yet it boasts a ready charm that's hard to dislike. West End: Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. And local cinemas

THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER (15. 92 mins) Charles Laughton's 1955 drama hinges on a nonetheless indulges in some dubious Nazi chic legendary bit of screen villainy from Robert Mitchum as a murderous preacher. West End: Curzon Soho, Renoir

> PAYBACK (18, 102 mins) Revisiting the source that inspired John Boorman's

> Point Blank, this revenge thriller sends its double-crossed-and-left-for-dead anti-hero (Mel Gibson) on a mission to get his money back and to get even. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington. Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

PLEASANTVILLE (12, 124 mins) See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Plaza, Warner Village West End

PLUNKETT AND MACLEANE (15, 101 mins) Plunkett and Macleane are rakish Dick Turpins cutting a dash through 18th-century society. Plunkett (Robert Carlyle) packs a pistol, while Macleane (Jonny Lee Miller) romances a debutante (Liv Tyler). Yet instead of a decent plot, director Jake Scott offers noise and pop-promo visuals. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Notting Hill Coronel, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odean Marble Arch, Odean Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. And local cinemas

THE RUGRATS MOVIE (U, 90 mins) Given the small-screen success of the Rugrats (cartoon toddlers up to no good), a feature-length foray was always in the offing. Kids, no doubt, will eat this up. Adults should simply grin and bear it. West End: Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemus

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15, 123 mins) See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, The Tricycle Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road,

Virgin Trocadero. Repertory: Riverside Studios Cinema. And local cinemas TEA WITH MUSSOLINI (PG, 117 mins) Franco Zeffirelli's Tea with Mussolini ambles

through its tale of dotty Brits (Maggie Smith, Judi Dench, Joan Plowright) adrift in Mussolini-era Tuscany. West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys. Repertory: Phoenix Cinema And local cinemas

THE THIN RED LINE (15, 170 mins) Terrence Malick's long-awaited return to directing is a fabulous, fever-struck war film. A cast of familiar faces (John Travolta, George Clooney) play second fiddle to the creeping narcotic mood. West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Virgin Haymarket. Local: Richmond Odeon Studio

WAKING NED (PG, 91 mins) Good news: Ned, a salt-of-the-earth resident of Tullymore, has won the lottery. Bad news: Ned is dead. Cue a rattle-bag of comedic misadventures as two local scallywags scheme to get their paws on the loot. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon West End, Virgin Chelseo. Repertory: Watermans Arts Centre. And local cinemas

# THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

THE INFORMATION DAIL

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Gods and Monsters (15) A droll speculation on the last days of 1930s norror auteur James Whale (Ian McKellen), who is magnetised by the alluring form of his Beverly Hills gardener (Brendan Fraser). Director Bill Condon won an Oscar

for Best Adapted Screenplay. Pleasantville (12)

Two Nineties teenagers are "sucked" into a favourite Fitties sitcom and evert a dramatic influence on its conformist black-and-white idvll. A with parable about prejudice and change.

High Art (18)

A portrait of the artist as lesbian screw-up, Lisa Choledenko's bitterly witty take on New York living (and dying) boasts one of the performances of the year from Ally Sheedy.

The Faculty (15) Kevin Williamson does it again with this sci-fi tale of

alien invaders. Beautiful people, a sharp script. subversive morals. Piper Laurie... Why can't all teen films be like this? Shakespeare in Love (15)

This enjoyable. Oscar-laden historical romp (right) suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the inspiration for Romeo and Julier. Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth Paltrow (Best Actress) head an impressive cast.

ANTHONY QUINN AND CHARLOTTE O'SULLIVAN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

Good (Donmar Warehouse, London) Starring Charles Dance, CP Taylor's play (right) about accommodations with conscience is revived in a sensitive production by Michael Grandage. To 22 May

Gross Indecency (Gielgud Theatre, London)

King via Elame Paige. To Its May

months of the year. To 24 April

The artfully fractured form of Moises Kaufman's compelling play about Oscar Wilde manages to present the writer in all his complexity. Booking to 5 Jun

Forbidden Broadway (Jermyn Street Theatre, London) Deliciously spiteful and tremendously funny selection of musical theatre spoot's from Southeim to The Lion

Colombe (Salisbury Playhouse) Un-and-coming director Jonathan Church signs off at Salisbury with the characteristically bold and imaginative choice of an Anouilh comedy set in Paris's theatrical demi-monde. To 17 April

Uncle Vanya (Mercury Theatre, Colchester) Gregory Floy stars in the Chekhov classic - the second leg of Mercury Theatre's brave experiment in

forming a resident ensemble of actors for nine

PAUL TAYLOR

### THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Jackson Pollock (Tate Gallery) Big, revelatory retrospective for the wild hero of Abstract Expressionism (going on Old Master). legendary for his great drip paintings, but

virtually unknown here for 40 years, To 6 Inn

Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the smartest, most intense portraiture ever, Men as icons of power, women as exauisite nu langes

Henri Michaux (Whitechapel Gallery)

of flesh and fabric, To 25 Apr

He travelled. He wrote. He took drugs. And, inspired by grief and mescalin, he created amazing, wobbly bobbly wibbly scribbly fine-grain line drawings. To 25.4pr

**Andreas Gursky** (Dean Gallery, Edinburgh) Photographs 1994-98 (right): huge, panoramie, high-finish. micro-detailed, digitally manipulated images of our world stock-eychange floor, cityscape, hotel fover. Vistas of more than the eye can see. To 16 May



Antony Gormley's 'Field' (firstsite at Culver St., Colchester) One of the great hits of the decade; a sea of 40,000

pint-sized clay men - obedient, expectant, menacing, and stopping dead in a line at your feet. To 3 May

TOM LUBBOCK

<u>CINEMA</u>

ABC PANTON STREET (0870-902 0404) ← Piccadilly Circus Elizabeth 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm Festen 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.35pm Hilary and Jackie 2.25pm, 5.25pm, 8.20pm The 39 Steps (1935 Version) 1.25pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm

ARC PICCADILIY ABC PICCADILLY (0171-437 3561) Piccadilly Circus Affliction 1pm. 3.30pm. 6pm, 8.30pm Lock, Stock & Tiwo Smoking Barrels 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) ♦ Leicester Square Bedrooms and Hallways 1.15pm, 8.45pm 3.30pm. Elizabeth 6.05pm, 1.45pm,

ABC SWISS CENTRE (0870-902 0403) ♥ Lecester Square/Piccadilly Circus Hideous Kinky 1.50pm, 4.05pm, 6.15pm. 8,35pm Jenseits der Stille 1,40pm, 4,10pm, 6,30pm, 8,50pm No 1,20pm, 3,10pm, 5pm, 7pm, 8,55pm La Vita e Bella 1,20pm. 3,45pm, 6 10pm, 8,40pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD Payback 1,45pm, 4,10pm, 6,35pm, 9,10pm Plunkett and Macleane 1,25pm, 4pm, 6,45pm, 9,35pm

**BARBICAN SCREEN** (0171-638 8891) & Moorgate No 6.15pm, 8.40pm The Red Violin 6pm, 8 40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) Sloane Square Conte d'Automne 1 35pm. 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 3323) O Clapham mmon Bedrooms and Hallways 5.20pm, 9.30pm A Bug's Life 1pm A Civil Action 1.30pm, 4pm. 6 40pm, 9.10pm Gods and Monsters 9.20pm Plunkett and Macleane 2pm, 4 20pm, 6 50pm, 9pm The 39 Steps (1935) Version) 3 20pm, 7.30pm La Vita e Bella 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm

CURZON MAYFAIR 6.15pm, 8.45pm

CURZON SOHO (0171-734 2255 (12nc-on-6pm))

G Leicester Square Tottenham
Court Road Conte d'Automne

2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm Gods and Monsters 4.30pm, 9.30pm High Art 2pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Night of the Hunter 2.15pm, 7.15pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE 8.30pm Tea with Mussolini 12,30pm, 3 15pm, 6pm, 8 45pm GATE NOTTING HILL

(0171-727 4043) → Norting Hill Gate Central Station 1 35pm. 6.25pm La Vita è Bella 3.55pm, 8.45pm

(0171-734 1506) → Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square Aprile 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Slam 2pm. 4,15pm, 6,30pm, 8,45pm CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) Hyde Pali

Corner/Knightsbridge La Vita e Bella 3pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) + Notting Hill 3,30pm, 6pm, 8,50pm

**ODEON CAMDEN TOWN** (08705-050007) Camden Town American History X 2 40pm. 5.40pm, 8.35pm A Bug's Life 12,10 11,50am, 12,10pm The Faculty 50am, 2,15pm, 4,30pm. 5.45pm, 9pm Payback 11 45am. 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm. 0.05pm Plunkett and Macleane 11.40am, 1.55pm, 4.10pm, 6.25pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 12,20pm, 4 30pm, 8,40pm Waking Ned 2 35pm, 6,50pm

ODEON HAYMARKET Piccaduly (08705-050007) 
Piccadilly Circus The Red Violin 2pm. 5 30pm. 8 25pm

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ODEON KENSINGTON (08705-050007) ← High Street Kensington Bedrooms and Hallways 2.50pm, 5.15pm, Kensington Bedrooms and Hallways 2.50pm, 5.15pm, 7.40pm, 10.05pm A Bug's Life 1pm The Faculty 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Mighty Joe 12.10pm Payback 7.15pm, 9.50pm Plunkett and Macleane 9.50pm Plunkert and Macieane 2pm. 4.30pm. 6.55pm. 9.25pm. The Red Violin 12.05pm. 3.10pm. 6.15pm. 9.20pm La Vita è Bella 3.50pm. 6.35pm. 9.20pm Waking Ned 2.45pm. 5pm

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (08705-050007) Leicester Square Plunkett and Macleane 1,40pm, 4pm, 6,25pm, 8 50pm

ODEON MARRIE ARCH A Bug's Life 12noon The Faculty 1pm. 3.35pm. 6.10pm. 8.55pm Mighty Joe 1.10pm, 3.50pm Payback 1.15pm, 3.40pm. Payback 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 9.05pm Plunkett and 6,25pm, 9,05pm Punket: and Macleane 2,10pm, 4,30pm, 6,50pm, 9,15pm The Rugrats Movie 1,10pm, 3,10pm, 5,05pm Shakespeare in Love 6,20pm, 9,10pm Waking Ned 7pm, 9,10pm

OPEON MEZZANINE (08705-050007) & Leicester Square Bedrooms and Hallways A Bug's Life 2pm. 4.10pm Elizabeth 12.35pm. 3.05pm. 5.35pm. 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 12 55pm. 4 15pm. 7 40pm This Year's Love 6 20pm. 8 40pm La Vita e Bella 12.45pm. 3 20pm.

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (08705-050007) ⊕ Swiss Corrage A Bug's Life 1 30pm The Faculty 1 05pm, 3,50pm, 6 25pm, 9,50pm Mighty Joe 12,40pm Payback 3,45pm, 6 15pm, 8 45pm Plunkett and Macleane 1 15pm, 3 45pm, 5 15pm, 8 45pm The Red Violin 12 05pm, 2.45pm, 5 30pm, 10 05pm. 8 20pm Shakespeare in Love 3pm, 5 45pm, 8 25pm Tea with Mussolini 12,30pm, 3 10pm.

5.50pm, 8.30pm **ODEON WEST END** 3.25pm Waking Ned 4.05pm, 6.35pm, 9pm

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA Everest 4.45pm, 9.05pm (+ Short More) L5 - The First City in Space (3-D) 2.40pm. 7pm T-Rex: Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 11 30am. 1,35pm, 5,50pm, 8pm, 10 10pm

(0590-888990) O Piccadilly Circus Orgazmo 12 45pm, 3 15pm, 5.30pm, 8pm Patch Adams 12.30pm Pleasantville 3pm Saving Private Ryan 12.15pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm Shakespeare in Love 12noon, 2,45pm, 6pm, 8,50pm

(0171-837 8402) 🙃 Russell Square Central Starion1.15pm, 6 40pm Conte d'Automne 1 35pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Night of the Hunter 4 35pm, 9pm

RITZY CINEMA (0171-733 2229) BR ← Birkton American History X 9 30pm Central Station 2 05pm, 6 50pm High Art 12 30pm, 2 45pm, 5pm 7.10pm, 9.25pm (+ Short Angell Insomnia 1pm Plunkett and Macleane 12.10pm, 2.25pm. 4.45pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm (+ Short Anthrakatis) The Rugrats Movie 12.45pm, 2.35pm, 4.25pm Shakespeare in Love 7pm Slam 2.55pm, 5.05pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm La Vita è Bella 4 20pm, 9.10pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) 

Baker Street Central Station 3 50pm, 6 20pm. 6.10pm, 8.35pm

(0171-226 3520) ◆ Angel High Art 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm (+ Short: Eva) Little Volce 2.30pm SCREEN ON THE HILL (0171-435-3366) Belsize Park

Monsters 6,40pm, 8 55pm

Elizabeth 3.20pm Gods and

SCREEN ON THE GREEN

THE TRICYCLE CINEMA peare in Love 7pm

UCI WHITELEYS

UCI WHITELEYS
(0870-603 4567) © Bayswater
Bedrooms and Hallways 2pm.
4.30pm. 7.10pm. 9.45pm A Bug's
Life 1pm A Civil Action 1.15pm.
4pm. 6.40pm. 9.10pm The Faculty
1.45pm. 4.20pm. 7pm. 9.25pm
Mighty Joe 1.30pm Payback
3.50pm. 6.30pm. 9.45pm Plunhett
and Marleane 12.30pm. 2.40pm. and Macleane 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm The Rugrats Movie 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.10pm Shakespeare in Love 6.10pm, 9pm Tea with Mussolini 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm La Vita e Bella 12noon.

VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-907 0710) O Sloane Souare/South Kensington A Civil Action 12.45pm. 3pm. 6.30pm. 9pm The Faculty 1pm, 3.45pm, 15pm, 8.45pm La Vita e Bella 12,45pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Waking Ned 1.15pm, 3.30pm. 5.45pm, 8.15pm VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD

(0870-907 0711) O South Kensington Bedrooms Hallways 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.50pm, Hallways 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Gods and Monsters 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Payback 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Plunkett and Macleane 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm, Shakespeare in Love 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm You've Got M@il 2.40pm, 5.20pm, 8.70pm, 8.

VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-907 0712) ← Piccadilly Circus Bedrooms and Hallways 3,15pm, 6.45pm, 9,15pm The Thin Red Line 2.45pm. La Vita è Bella 2pm, 6,15pm, 9pm VIRGIN TROCADERO

(0870-907 0716) Picca Circus American History 8.10pm Arlington Road 8,30pm Blast from the Past 8.30pm Blast from the Past 12.40pm. 3 20pm 5.20pm A Bug's Life 12 15pm. A Civil Action 12 05pm. 2 15pm. 4.30pm. 6.45pm. 5pm The Faculty 12 10pm. 2.25pm. 4.35pm. 6.50pm. 5.05pm Payback 12noon, 2 55pm, 5.55pm. 8.55pm The Rugrats Movie 11.55am. 1.50pm. 3.50pm Shakespeare In Love 12.35pm. 3 05pm. 5.45pm. 8 25pm The Texas Chainsaw 8.25pm The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2.20pm. 6.40pm, 8.45pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) Leicester Square American History X 12,30pm, 3,15pm, 6,20pm 9,05pm Arlington Road 12,20pm, 3,10pm, 6,15pm. 9.10pm Blast from the Past 12.55pm, 3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm A Bug's Life 12.20pm, 2 35pm. 4.50pm The Faculty 1 30pm. 4pm. 5.30pm. 9pm The Opposite of Sex 7.25pm. 9.45pm Payback 11.30am, 1pm. 2pm. 3 30pm. 4 30pm. 6pm. 7pm. 8 30pm. 9.30pm Pleasantville 9.20pm The Pleasantville 9.20pm The Rugrats Movie 1.20pm, 3.20pm, 5 20pm. 7 20pm You've Got M@il 12.50pm. 3 30pm, 6.10pm. 8.50pm

> CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE

(0181-896 0066) Park Royal

American History X 9 20pm Arlington Road 10pm Blast from 6 20pm 9.10pm A Bug's Life 11 10am, 1.20pm A Civil Action 11 20am 2pm, 4 40pm, 7 10pm, 9 40pm The Faculty 2,20pm, 4 50pm. 7.30pm. 9 50pm Jack Frost 12noon Madeline 11.15am Mighty Joe ! lam. 1.40pm. 4.15pm Payback 1.30pm. 4pm. 6,40pm. 9pm Plunkert and Macleane 11.30am. 150pm. 4 30pm, 7pm, 9 30pm The Prince of Egypt 12,30pm The Rugrats Movie 10 50am. 2 30pm, 4 30pm, 6 50pm Shakespeare in Love 3 30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Waking Ned 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@il 7.20pm

ODEON (08705-050007) + High Barnet The Faculty 4pm, 6.20pm. 8.30pm La Vita è Bella 1.45pm Little Voice 6.40pm Mighty Joe 12.30pm. 2.45pm Payback 6.50pm. 12.30pm. 2.45pm Payback 0.50pm. 8.50pm Plunkett and Macleane 1.30pm. 4.15pm, 7pm. 9pm The Rugrats Movie 12noon, 2pm, 5pm Shakespeare in Love 8.45pm Waking Ned 2.50pm. 4.45pm. 7.15pm, 9.15pm

BECKENHAM ABC (0870-902 0412) BR: Beckenham Junction A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 6.10pm The Faculty 2.20pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm Madeline 2.20pm, 6.35pm, 8.30pm Madesine 12.15pm, 4.35pm Plunkett and Macleane 6.15pm, 8.40pm The Rugrats Movie 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm Shakespeare in Love

3.25pm, 8.20pm

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) heath The Acid Hous 4,30pm, 9.30pm Blast from the Past 2.30pm, 5.05pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm A Bug's Life 11am, 1pm. 3pm A Civil Action 1.30pm. 4.05pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm The Faculty 1.55pm, 4.20pm, 6.45pm. 9.15pm Jack Frost 12noon Made line 11.30am Mighty Joe 11.30am

2pm, 7pm Plunkett and Macleane 12.20pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.35pm The Rugrats Movie 11.05am, 11.50am, 1pm, 150pm, 2.55pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm Shake-speare in Love 5pm, 7.30pm, 9.55pm Waking Ned 1.45pm, 3.45pm, 5.45pm, 7.45pm, 9.45pm BROMLEY (08705-050007) ODEON BR: Bromley North A Bug's Life 12noon The Faculty 2.45pm,

12.50pm. 8.20pm Mighty Joe 1.25pm. 3.50pm Payback 6.10pm. 8.45pm Plunkett and Macleane 12.50pm. 3.15pm. 6.15pm. 8.40pm The Rugrats Movie 12.15pm. 2.15pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm Waking Ned 8.50pm CATFORD ABC (0181-461 1278) BR: Catford A Bug's Life 12.30pm The Facul-

8.40pm The Rugrats Movie 12.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.15pm CROYDON FAIRFIELD HALLS (0181-688 9291) BR: East Croydon Little Voice 7.45pm

ty 2.45pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Plun-

kett and Macleane 6.10pm,

SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon A Bug's Life 12.30pm A Civil Action 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Movie 1pm, 3.10pm Waking Ned 2.45pm, 5.35pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Arlington Boad 8.50nm Blast from the Road 8.50pm Blast from Past 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm A Bug's Life 10.45am. 12.50pm, 2.55pm A Civil Action .50pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm The Faculty 5.10pm, 7.30pm. 9.50pm Jack Frost 10.40am Madeline 10.50am Mighty Joe 11.40am, 2.10pm, 4.40pm Pay-11.40am, 2.10pm, 4.40pm Pay-back 11.20am, 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Plunkett and Macleane 11.10am, 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm The Prince of Egypt 11.30am The Ru-grats Movie 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 7pm Shakespeare in Love 6.10pm, 8.30pm Waking Ned 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm, 9.50pm

DAGENHAM

2020) O Dagenham Heathway American History X 9.40pm Arlington Road 9.50pm Blast from the Past 1.20pm, 3.50pm. 6.20pm, 8.50pm A Bug's Life 10.50am, 1pm A Civil Action 1.40pm, 4.20pm 7.10pm, 9.40pm The Faculty 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9pm Jack Frost 11.50am Madeline 11.10am Mighty Joe 11am, 1.50pm, 4.25pm Payback 11,40am, 2pm, 4,30pm, 6,50pm, 9,20pm Plunkett and Macleane 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.05pm, 9.30pm The Prince of Egypt 9.30pm The Frince of Egypt 11 20am The Rugrats Movie 10.40am, 12.40pm, 2.40pm, 4.40pm, 7pm Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Waking Ned 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm, You've Gor, 6.30pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@ii 7 20pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-907 0719) BR/O Ealing Broadway A Bug's Life 1.10pm The Faculty 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm Mighty Joe 1pm, 3.30pm Payback 6.40pm,

9pm Plunkett and Macleane 6.30pm, 8.50pm The Rugrats Movie 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm EDMONTON
LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) © Tottenham Hale Arlington Road 9,35pm A Bug's Life 3.10pm A Civil Action 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm The Faculty 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm Madeline 12ncon Mighty Joe 3.40pm Payback 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Plunkett and Macleane 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.20pm The Rugrats Movie 2.10pm, 14.50pm, 4.30pm, 5.15pm, 6.40pm, 7.30pm Shakespeare in Love 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Tea with Mussolini 6.10pm La Vita è Bella 8.50pm Waking Ned

La Vita è Bella 8.50pm Waking Ned 4pm. 6.30pm. 8.35pm **FLEPHANT AND CASTLE** CORONET (0171-703 4968) @ Elephant & Castle The Faculty 3.40pm. 6.10pm. 8.45pm Plunkett and

Macleane 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.50pm FELTHAM

**CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-**Ref 0555) BR: Feltham Aarzoo 11.03am, 3pm, 6.20pm, 9.40pm American History X 8.30pm Anari No 1 3.40pm, 9.15pm Blast from the Past 11.20am, 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9pm A Bug's Life 10.30am, 12.35pm, 2.40pm A Civil Action 11.20am, 1.50pm. 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Dil To Pagal Hai 11.15am. 6.05pm The Fac-ulty 11.50am. 2.10pm. 4.30pm. 6.45pm, 9.15pm International Khiladi 3.15pm, 6.30pm, 9.55pm Jaanam Samjha Karo 11.25am. 2.45pm, 6.10pm, 9.35pm Jack Frost 11.40am Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 2.50pm, 9.20pm The Last Days of Disco 12.20am Madeline 10.50am. 12.50pm Mighty Joe 10.40am. 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm Patch Adams 11am, 1.20pm, 7pm Payback 2pm. 4.30pm. 6.50pm. 9.20pm. 10pm Plunkett and Macleane 11,05am, 1,10pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm The Rugrats Movie 11am, 12noon, 1pm, 2m, 3pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm Shakespeare in Love 4.45pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm Waking Ned 3.05pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.15pm

FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) © East Finchley/Finchley Central Arlington Road 9.20pm Blast from the Past 1pm. 3.40pm 6.10pm, 9.50pm A Bug's Life 10.30am. 12.50pm A Civil Action 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 9pm The Faculty 3.15pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Jack Frost 10.40am La Vita e Bella 6.30pm Madeline 11.20am Mighty Joe 10.30am, 1.40pm, 4.20pm Payback 11am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Plunkett and Macleane 11.30am. 2pm, 4.30pm. 6.55pm, 9.30pm The Prince of Egypt 10.50am The Rugrats Movie 11.10pm, 1.15pm, 3.30pm Shakespeare in Love 7pm, 9.50pm Waking Ned 1.50pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm

FINCHLEY ROAD WARNER VILLAGE (0171-6043) 10) O Finchley Road Arlington Road 9.35pm Blast from the Past 11am. 1.25pm. 3.55pm. 6.25pm, 9pm A Bug's Life 11.20am, 1.40pm A Cuil Action 1.15pm. 3.50pm. 6.30pm. 9.15pm The Faculty 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Madeline 11.45am Mighty Joe 10.50am, 1.25pm Payback 2pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Plunkett and Macleane 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm The Rugrats Movie 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm Shakespeare in Love 4pm, 6,40pm, 9,25pm Waking Ned 12,40pm, 2,55pm, 5,15pm, 7,25pm, 9,40pm

**GOLDERS GREEN** GOLDERS GREEN ABC (0181-455 1724) O Golders Green A Civil Action 2.45pm, 8.35pm The Rugrats Movie 5.15pm

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-907 0718) ← Raven-1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Mighty Joe 12noon, 3.10pm Payback 3.15pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Plunkett and Macleane 6.20pm. 8.45pm The Rugrats Movie 1.30pm, 3.40pm





joined by Johnny Mart for a

performance of The Smiths' Meat is

Murder'... there must have been a few

groans at the prospect of three hours

of earnest campaigning From then.

and enjoy a line-up of exceptional

Telegraph. "Meat may be murder,

but this wasn't a wake," Max Bell,

Where You Can Catch It

This Saturday at 7.30pm on Radio 2.

and on Sunday at 10.30pm on BBC1.

quality," Simon Briggs, Doily

Evening Standard

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### CINEMA WEST END

ABC PANTON STREET (0870-902 0404) Piccadilly Circus Elizabeth 2.15pm, 5.15pm. 8.10pm Festen 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.35pm Hilary and Jackie 2.25pm, 5.25pm, 8.20pm The 39 Steps (1935 Version) 1.25pm. 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm

**ABC PICCADILIV** (0171-437 3561) **⊕** Piccadilly Circus Affliction 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Lock, Stock & Tirro Smoking Barrels 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) O Leicester Square Bedrooms and Hallways 3.30pm. Elizabeth 1.15pm. 6.05pm, 1.45pm. 5.30pm, 8.25pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE (0870-902 (0403) <del>O</del> Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus Hideous Kinky 1.50pm. 4.05pm. 6.15pm. 8.35pm Jenseits der Stille 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm No 1.20pm, 3.10pm, 5pm, 7pm, 8.55pm La Vita è Bella 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0870-902 0414) & Tottenham Court Road Gods and Monsters 10pm, 3.50pm, 6.55pm, 9.25pm Payback 1.45pm, 4.10pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm Plunkett and Macleane 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.35pm BARBICAN SCREEN

(0171-638 8891) ⊕ Moorgate N6 6.15pm, 8.40pm The Red Violin CHEI SEA CINEMA

Conte d'Automne 3 55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 3323) O Clapham Common Bedrooms and Hallways 520pm, 9.30pm A Bug's Life 1pm A Civil Action 1.30pm, 4pm. 6.40pm, 9.10pm Gods and Monsters 9.20pm Plunkett and Macleane 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9pm The 39 Steps (1935 Version) 3.20pm, 7.30pm La Vita e Bella 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm

**CURZON MAYFAIR** 

**CURZON SOHO** 

(0171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm)) → Leicester Square Tottenham Court Road Conte d'Automne 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm Gods and Monsters 4.30pm, 9.30pm High Art 2pm. 4.45pm. 7pm. 9.20pm Night of the Hunter

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE Square A Civil Action 12.45pm. 3.25pm. 6.15pm. 9pm La Vita è Bella 12noon. 2.45pm. 5.45pm. 8.30pm Tea with Mussolini 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043)  $\oplus$  Notting Hill Gate Central Station 1.35pm. 6.25pm La Vita è Bella

(0171-734 1506) & Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square Aprile 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Slam 2pm.

4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) O Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge La Vita è Bella 3pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) O Notting Hill Gate Plunkett and Macleane

**ODEON CAMDEN TOWN** (10705-050007) & Camden lown American History X 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.35pm A Bug's Life 12.10pm The Faculty 11.50am, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Payback 17.45am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm Plunkett and Macleane 11.40am. 1.55pm, 4.10pm, 6.25pm. 8.40pm This Year's Love 12.20pm, 4.30pm, 8.40pm

ODEON HAYMARKET (08705-050007) & Piccadilly Circus The Red Violin 2pm. 5,30pm, 8,25pm

ODEON KEPSINGTON (08705-050007) + High Street /)  $\Theta$  mg. Bedrooms and 5.15pm. Hallways 2.50pm, 5.15pm, 7.40pm, 10.05pm A Bug's Life 1pm The Faculty 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Mighty Joe Payback 9.50pm Plunkett and Macleane 20m, 4.30pm, 6.55pm, 9.25pm 2pm, 4.50pm, 6.55pm, 5.23pm, The Red Violin 12.05pm, 3.10pm, 6.15pm, 9.20pm La Vita e Bella 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm

**ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE** (08705-050007) & Leicester Square Plunkett and Macleane 1,40pm, 4pm, 6,25pm, 8,50pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH Paydock 1.13pm. 5.40pm. 6.25pm, 9.05pm Plunkert and Macleane 2.10pm. 4.30pm. 6.50pm. 9.15pm The Rugrats Movie 1.10pm. 3.10pm. 5.05pm 9.10pm Waking Ned 7pm, 9.10pm

ODEON MEZZANINE (08705-050007)  $oldsymbol{\Theta}$  Leicester Square Bedrooms and Hallways 2,10pm, 4,15pm, 6,25pm, 8,35pm A Bug's Life 2pm, 4,10pm Efizabeth 12,35pm, 3,05pm, 5,35pm, 8,20pm The Thin Red Line 12.55pm, 4.15pm, 7.40pm This Year's Love 6.20pm, 8.40pm La Vita e Bella 12.45pm. 3.20pm, 6pm, 8,40pm

**ODEON SWISS COTTAGE** 

(08705-050007) ⊕ Swiss Cottage A Bug's Life 1.30pm The Faculty 1,05pm, 3,50pm, 6,25pm, 8,50pm Mighty Joe 12.40pm Payback 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Plunkett and Macleane 1.15pm, 3.45pm. 5 15pm, 8 45pm The Red Violin 12.05pm, 2.45pm, 5.30pm. 3.20pm Shakespeare in Love 3pm. 5.45pm. 8.25pm **Tea** Mussolini 12.30pm, 3.10pm.

ODEON WEST END (08705-050007) <del>O</del> Leicester Square Little Voice 8.55pm Mighty Joe 12.55pm, 3.25pm Waking Ned 1.40pm,

PEPSI IMAX ÇINEMA (0171-494 4153) & Piccadilly Čircus Blue Planet 12.35pm Everest 4.45pm, 9.05pm (+ Short: (3-D) 2.40pm, 7pm T-Rec Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 11.30am, 1.35pm, 5.50pm, 8pm, 10.10pm

(0990-888990) Piccadilly Circus Orgazmo 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.30pm, 8pm Patch Adams 12.30pm Pleasantville 3pm Saving Private Ryan 12.15pm. 4.15pm. 7.45pm Shakespeare in Love 12noon, 2.45pm, 6pm, 8.50pm

RENOIR (0171-837 8402) & Russell Square Central Station1.15pm, 6.40pm Conte d'Automne 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Night of the Hunter 4.35pm, 9pm

RITZY CINEMA (0171-733 2229) BR/O Broxton

American History X 9.30pm Central Station 2.05pm. 6.50pm High Art 12.30pm, 2.45pm, 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.25pm (+ Short: Angel) Insomnia 1pm Plunkett and 1pm Plunkett and 12.10pm, 2.25pm. 7.05pm. 9.20pm (+ Short: Anthrakatis) The Rugrats Movie 12.45pm, 2.35pm, 4.25pm Shakespeare in Love 7pm Slam Shakespeare in Love 7pm Slam 2.55pm, 5.05pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Central Station 3.50pm, 6.20pm. 8.45pm La Vita & Bella 3.40pm. 6.10pm, 8.35pm

La Vita è Bella 4.20pm, 9.10pm

(0171-226 3520) & Angel High Art 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm (+ Short: Eva) Little Volce 2.30pm

SCREEN ON THE HILL (0171-435 3366) ← Belsize Park Elizabeth 3.20pm Gods and Monsters 6.40pm. 8.55pm THE TRICYCLE CINEMA (0171-328 1000) & Kilburn A Bug's Life 1.30pm, 4pm Gods and Monsters 9.15pm Shakespeare in Love 7pm

UCI WHITELEYS (0870-603 4567) O Bayswater Bedrooms and Hallways 2pm. 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm A Bug's Life 1pm A Civil Action 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm The Faculty 1.45pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.25pm Mighty Joe 1.30pm Payback 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.45pm Plunkett and Macleane 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 2.40pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.45pm Plunkert and Macleane 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm The Rugrats Movie 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.10pm Shakespeare in Love 6.10pm, 9pm Tea with Mussofini 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm La Vita e Bella 12noon, 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm

VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-907 0710) O Sloane Square: South Kensington A Civil Square: South Rensington A CNII Action 12.45pm. 3pm. 5.30pm. 9pm The Faculty 1pm. 3.45pm. 5.15pm. 8.45pm La Vita è Bella 12.45pm. 3.15pm. 6pm. 8.30pm. Waking Ned 1.15pm. 3.30pm. 5.45pm. 8.15pm.

YIRGIN FULHAM ROAD (0870-907 9711) 🗢 South Kensington Bedrooms 1pm, 3,30pm, 6,50pm 9.10pm Gods and Monsters 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 3.40pm Payback 1.40pm, 9.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Plunkett and Macleane 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Snakespeare in Love 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm You've Got M@il Shakespeare in Love

2.40pm, 5.20pm, 8pm VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-907 0712) & Piccadilly Circus Bedrooms and Hallways 3.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm The Thin Red Line 2.45pm, 8pm La Vita è Bella 2pm, 6.15pm, 9pm

VIRGIN TROCADERO (0870-907 0716) O Piccadilly History X Circus American 8.10pm Arlington Road 6pm, 8.30pm Blast from the Past 12.40pm. 3.20pm. 5.20pm A Bug's Life 12.15pm A Civil Action 12.05pm, 2.15pm, 4.30pm. 9pm The rawy, n. 2.25pm. 4.35pm. Payback 6.50pm, 9.05pm Payback 12noon, 2.55pm, 5.55pm, 8.55pm 6.50pm, The Rugrats Movie 11.55am. 1.50pm, 3.50pm Shakespeare in Love 12 35pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2.20pm, 4.25pm,

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) \varTheta Leicester Square A 12.30pm. History X n, 6.20pm American 3.15pm, 3.10pm. 12.20pm, 5.10pm, 6.13pm, 9.10pm Blast from the Past 12.55pm, 3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm A Bug's Life 12.20pm, 2.35pm, 4.50pm The Faculty 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm The Opposite of Sex 7.25pm, 9.45pm Payhaet, 11.30pm, 1pm Opposite of Sex 7.25pm. 9.45pm Payback 11.30am, 1pm. 2pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 7pm. 8.30pm. 9 Pleasantville 9.20pm Rugrats Movie 1.20pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm, 7.20pm, You've Got M@il 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm

6.40pm, 8.45pm

#### CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

ACTON PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) Park Royal American History X 9.20pm Arlington Road 10pm Blast from the Past 1.10pm. 3.50pm. 6.20pm. 9.10pm A Bug's Life 11.10am. 1.20pm A Civil Action 11.20am 2pm. 4.40pm. 7.10pm. 9.40pm The Faculty 2.20pm. 4.50pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm Jack Frost 12noon Madeline 11.75am Mighty Joe 11am, 1.40pm. 4.15pm Payback 1.30pm, 4pm. 6.40pm, 9pm Plunkett and Macleane 11.30am, 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm The Prince of Egypt 12.30pm The Rugrats Movie 10.50am, 12.40pm. Movie 10.50am. 12.40pm. 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm Shakespeare in Love 3.30pm. 6.10pm. 8.50pm Waking Ned 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@il 7.20pm

ODEON (08705-050007) + High Barnet The Faculty 4pm, 6.20pm. 8.30pm La Vita è Bella 1,45pm Little Voice 6.40pm Mighty Joe 12.30pm, 2.45pm Payback 6.50pm, 8.50pm Plunkett and Macleane 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 7pm, 9pm The Rugrats Movie 12noon, 2pm, 5pm Shakespeare in Love 8.45pm Waking Ned 2.50pm, 4.45pm. 7.15pm, 9.15pm

BECKENHAM

ABC (0870-902 0412) BR: Beck enham Junction A Bug's Life 1.10pm. 6.10pm The Faculty 2.20pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm Madeline 12.15pm, 4.35pm Plunkett and Macleane 6.15pm, 8.40pm The Rugrats Movie 12.10pm, 2.10pm. Opm Shakespeare in Love 3.25pm, 8.20pm

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550)

# THEATRE

today: times and prices for the week running times include intervals. Seats at all prices 9 — Seats at some prices O - Returns only Matinees — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

**● AMADEUS** David Suchet stars as Salieri. Old Vic The Cut. SE1 (0171-494 5372/cc 494 5372) BR/⊕ Waterloo, Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4] 2.30pm, [7] 3pm, £7.50-£30.

ANIMAL CRACKERS Stage ver sion of the Marx Brothers' classic. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) ← Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm, £9 50-£30, 150 mins.

ART Tom Mannion. Danny Webb. and Gary Olsen in Yasmina Reza's comedy. Wyndham's Charing Cross Road. WC2 (0171-369 1736) € Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm. [4] 3pm. [7][1] 5pm. £9.50-£27.50.90 mins.

DEEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on Disney's version of the favourite fairytale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road. W1 (0171-656 1898) & Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2 30pm. £18.50-£35. 150 mins.

**⊗ BLOOD BROTHERS** Willy Russell's long-running Laverpudlian mu-sical. Phoenix Charing Cross Road. WC2 (0171-369 1733) & Leic Sq Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £11,50-£32 50 165 mins.

**9 BUDDY** Musical biog-snow tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930) \$800) © Covent & Carden. Tue-Thur 8800; © Covent & 3.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm £10-£30, half price Fri mats 160 mins

⊕ CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) ← Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7 45pm. [3][7] 3pm. £10.50-£35, 165 mins P CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Pe-

ter Davison star in this hit Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane. WC2 (0171-344 0055) O Charing Mon-Sat Spm, [4][7] 3pm, £16-£36 (incl booking fee), 130 mins. THE COMPLETE WORKS OF

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (AERIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company fast forwards through 37 plays. Criterion Piccadilly Circus. WÎ (0171-369 1747) \varTheta Picc Circ Wed-Sat 8pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 5pm, [1] 4pm, £10-£25, 120 mins.

DOPENHAGEN Drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom, Duchess Catherine Street. WC2 (0171-494 5075.cc 344 4444) [5][7] 2.30pm, £10-£30, 145 mins.

DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN Mark Little stars in this comedy of the sexes. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-494 5070) © Picc Circ. Mon-Thur 8pm. Fri-Sat opm & 8.45pm. £5-£25. concs available.

@ DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals. London Apoilo Hammersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) Hammersmith Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 28 Aug. £12.50-£32.50. 150 mins.

**● THE GIN GAME** Joss Ackland and Dorothy Tutin in this sensitive and funny drama which centres around a lengthy game of Gin Rummy. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 836 0479) BR/⊕ Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, ends 5 Jun. £9.50-£27.50.

O GOOD Charles Dance in CP Taylor's deceptively humorous Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) 151[7] 3pm. ends 22 May. £14-£22.

GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film starring Darren Day. Cambridge Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50, 150 mins,

• GROSS INDECENCY: THE HREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE Michael Pennington and William Hoy-land in Moises Kaufman's reconstruction of the downfall of the Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) & Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 2.30pm, \$7.50-£29.50.

**AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen** Daldry's widely acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm. Sat 8.15pm. [4] 2.30pm. [7] 5pm. £12-£29.50. 110 mins.

■ MACBETH Runus Sewell and Sally Dexter portray thwarted ambition. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, WI (0171-494 5040 cc 344 4444) ◆ Picc Grc. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [7] 2.30pm. ends 5 Jun. £10.50-£28.50. 140 mins.

● MAKING NOISE QUIETLY Robert Holman's series of short pieces depicting encounters between strangers in the shadow of war. Whitehall Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735/cc 867 1111) BR/— Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, ends 22 May. £6-£21, 135 mins.

O MAMMA MIA! Musical about a mother's reflections on her daughter's wedding day, packed with Abba hits. Prince Edward Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 3pm, £15-£35,

◆ THE MEMORY OF WATER Alison Steadman and Julia Sawalha star in this comedy about sisters. Vaudeville Strand, WCZ (0171-836 9987) BR. & Charing X Mon-Sat 8pm, [5][7] 3pm. £8-£27.50.

CLASSIC HITS from the Seventies including

"So Tired of Being Alone" are bound to

feature in this rare live appearance by Al

Royal Albert Hali. Kensington Gore, London

SW7 (0171-589 8212) to 29 Jun

Now Booking

**3** 

#### ) LES MISÈRABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterniece. Palace Shartesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-434 0909) Picc Circ Mon-Sat 7 30pm, [5]]7] 2 30pm, £7-£35, 195 mins

MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) & Covent Garden Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £8 50-£35

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodunnil. St Martin's West Street. WC2 (017) -836 1443) ◆ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm. [3] 7 45pm. [7] 5pm. £10-£24.50, 135 mins

) THE NEW ROCKY HORROR SHOW 25th anniversary of the cult rock in roll musical. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SWI (0171-834 1317) BP/O Victoria, Mon-Thur Spm. Fri 5 30pm & 8 30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, ends 5 Jun. £10 50-

man stars in the National's claimed production. Lyceum Wellington Street, WC2 (0870-606 3446) O Charing X Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 26 Jun. £10-£35, 180 mins. O THE PHANTOM OF THE

O OKLAHOMA! Maureen Lip-

Gothic musical, Her Majesty's Haymarket, SW1 (0171-494 5400 cc 344 4444) ⊕ Picc Circ Mon-Sat 7 45pm. [4][7] 3pm. £10-£35, 150 mins O THE PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE Richard Dreviuss and Mar-sha Mason star in Neil Simon's mid-

life crisis comedy. Theatre Royal, Haymarket Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) ← Picc Circ Mon-Sat 7,45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£32 50. ② RENT Musical inspired by La Bone and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (07000-211221) & Holborn Tott

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE OLYTTELION The Geometry of Miracles Robert Lepage's latest work is inspired by the drawings and buildings of Frank Lloyd Wright In rep. tonight 7 30pm

Ct Pd. Mon-Sat 7 30pm, [4][7] 3pm.

DOLIVIER: Candide Voltaire's comic masterpiece, featuring an all-star cast. In rep. tonight 7 15pm, ends 22 May. Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£32. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000). ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

OTHE BARBICAN: The Winter's Tale Anthony Sher stars in this tale of obsessive jealousy. In rep. tonight 7 15pm, ends 6 May O THE PIT: Roberto Zucco Drama by Koltes, inspired by a wanted poster. In rep, tonight 7.15pm, ends 1 May.

£18 50. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-SACRED HEART Two friends struggle to come to terms with their pasts and daunting futures. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-

ends 24 Apr. £10, concs £5 I SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring songs by the Street, Wi (0171-494 5020) → Öxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 2.30pm. £10-£32.50. 135 mins.

565 5000) 🗢 Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7pm,

@ STARLIGHT EXPRESS Anmusical Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR; ↔ 3pm. £12.50-£30. 150 mins.

SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER Tennessee Williams' chilling tale of motherly love starring Sheila Gish. Sat 8pm, [5][7] 4pm, £7.50-£27.50.

) THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama examining ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke of York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 3.30pm. £5-£25. 90 mins.

WEST SIDE STORY New production of Bernstein's classic musi-cal Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5987) ← Leic Sq. Picc Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm. £18.50-£35, 160 mins.

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's musical based on the film of the same name Aldunich Ald. wych, WC2 (0171-416 6000) 🗢 Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's ghost story: Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238) ⊕ Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50, 110 mins.

### THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

Mountain Jonathan Harvey's play with the twin setting of Heaven and Earth. Mon-Sat 8pm. mats Sat 3.30pm. ends 8 May. £14-£16. concs £6. Mon & Sat mats £9. Av-enuc Road. NW3 (0171-722 9301) O Swiss Cottage.

KING'S HEAD, ISLINGTON Gob Jason Orange stars in this comic attack on art and culture. Tue-Sun 8pm, mats Sat & Sun 3 30pm, ends 18 Apr. £12-£14, concs £9. Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916) O Angel.

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Blood Knot Athol Fugard's drama about racism. Tue-Sun 7.45pm, ends 25 Apr £10, concs E6. Crisp Road. W6 (0181-237 1111) O Hammersmith

BOX OFFICE

# \*THE INFORMATION ON A Concert for Linda McCartney

immediately when tickets went on sale

last May. Meanwhile, Sinéad O'Connor

reason the show sold out almost

was in typically eccentric form,

second half featured veteran

claiming that she could sense her

performers, including Tom Jones,

Marianne Faithfull and Elvis Costello.

What They Say About It

people that most pub crooners

few pints occasionally lends

surreal touch," Andrew Mueller,

Independent. "The evening got

off to an uncomfortable

start as Hynde and

the Pretenders were

proceedings an engagingly

imagine themselves to be after a

. The fact that these are the

dead mother in the stalls. A rousing

What is it? Star-studded fundraising concert in honour of Linda McCartney (below), photographer, animal rights campaigner and Beatles wife, who died of cancer last April. Described by host Eddie Izzard (right) as "a sort of karaoke evening", the show was set against a backdrop of McCartney's photographic work, and featured more than a dozen artists singing their own and Beatles' material. The finale was a tear-jerking tribute by husband Paul, and the inevitable rendition of

Who's in it? George Michael, in his first live appearance for two years, was probably the

"Let it Be".

ALDERSHOT WEST END CENTRE The Kaos Me tropolis Stage adaptation of Fritz Lang's film. Tonight 8pm. £6, concs £5. Queen's Road (01252-330040)

THEATRE

BRECON THEATR SRYCHEINIOG Blue Heror in The Womb Black comedy about love, sex. families and death. Tonight 7.30pm £7.50, concs £5.50. Cana Wharf (01874-611622)

THEATRE ROYAL The Late Middle Classes Harnid Pinter directs Simon Grav's study of family conflict in 1950s England, Tue-Sat 7 45pm

mats Thur 2 30pm, Sat 4pm, ends 17 Apr £8 50-£18.50, Bond Street

(01273-328488)

BRISTOL HIPPODROME THEATRE Phantom of the Opera Tour of Lloyd Webber's huge but musical, Mon-Sat. 7.30pm mats Wed & Sat. 2.30pm. ends 22 May, £10-£30, concs available, Si Augustines Parade (0117-929 9444)

CANTERBURY MARLOWE THEATRE Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream-coat Rice and Lloyd Webber's Biblical hit. Mon-Thur & Sat 2.30pm & 7.30pm. Fri 5pm & 8pm. ends 24 Apr £10-£21, concs available. The Friars (01227-787787)

MERCURY THEATRE Uncle Vanya Chekhov's tragi-comedy set on a run-down Russian estate. Mon-Sai 7.30pm, ends 24 Apr. £5.50-£15.50 Balkeme Gate (01206-573948)

YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Vertigo Anthony Andrews and Jenny Sea grove in this adaptation of the which inspired Hitchcock's film, Mon-Thur 7.45pm, Fri & Sat, 8pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 24 Apr. £10-£21.50. Millbrook (01483-440000) HARLOW HARLOW PLAYHOUSE Oliver The

GUILDFORD

late Lionel Bart's Dickensian musi-cal. Wed-Sat 7,30pm, mat Sat High (01279-431945) HIGH WYCOMBE WYCOMBE SWAN Pirates of Penzance Paul Nicholas stars in this Gilbert and Sullivan swash-buckler.

2 30pm, ends 17 Apr £8 50-£23 50 St Mary's Street (01494-512000) LEICESTER HAYMARKET THEATRE The White Devil Paul Kerryson directs John Webster's classic Jacobean tragedy: 14-16 Apr. 7.30pm. ends 30 Apr £6.50-£14.50, concs available

Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat

POOLE ARTS CENTRE A Doll's House Ibsen's classic. 14 & 15 Apr. 7.45pm. £7.50-£11.50. Kingland Road (01202-685222)

Belgrave Gate (0116-253 9797)

SALISBURY SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE Colombe Jean Anouilh's stylish evocation of the Parisian demi-monde. Tonight 7 30pm, ends 17 Apr. 8pm. £8-£15. Malthouse Lane (01722-320333)

THE OTHER PLACE Oroonoke Aphra Behn's Restoration novel, dapted by Biyi Bandele. 14-17 Apr. .30pm, ends 6 Oct. £10-£20. Southern Lane (01789-295623)

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE directs Ray Fearon and Zoe Waites 14-17 Apr., 7.30pm. ends 7 Oct. £5-£39. Waterside (01789-295623)

SWAN THEATRE Tales from Ovice Tim Supple directs the late Ted Hughes' version of Ovid's sublime epic poem. 14-17 Apr. 7.30pm. ends 7 Oct. £5-£36. Waterside (01789-295623)

THEATRE ROYAL Persuasion Helen Hobson in Jane Auslen's elegaic romance. Mon-Sat Bpm. mats Thur 30pm, Sat 4.45pm, ends 24 Apr. £6-£25, concs available. Thames Street (01753-853888)

# **EXHIBITIONS**

THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SO-CIETY For Most Of It I Have No Words: Simon Norfolk Photographs of 20th-century genocide. Mon-Su 9.30am-5.30pm. ends 6.Jun. £2.50, concs £1.75 The Octagon Galleries, Milsom Street (01225-462841)

BRECON THEATR BRYCHEINIOG The Poems of Jules Laforgue: Patrick Caulfield Prints by the Pop artist. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 18 Apr. free. Canal Wharf (01874-611622)

FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary American Prints Etchings, lithographs, woodcuts and screenprints. Ends 2 May, free.

Rembrandt and the Passion The museum's outstanding collection of prints. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm. ends 20 Jun. free. Trumpington Street (01223-332900)

CARDIFF
FFOTOGALLERY Common Sense: Martin Parr Photographic installation examining consumerism. Tue-Sat 10am-5.30pm, ends 8 May, free. Charles Street (01222-341667) COLCHESTER FIRSTSITE AT ROMAN HOUSE

Antony Gormley's Field for the British Isles Forty thousand terra-

cotta figures. Tue, Wed. Fri-Sun 12noon-6om. Thur 12noon-7pm, ends 23 May, free by donation. Queen Street (01206-577067) EXETER ROYAL ALBERT MEMORIAL MUSEUM The Art of Hilda Carline:

Mrs Stanley Spencer The paintings of Spencer's first wife. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 3 May, free, Queen Street (01392-265858) HERNE BAY MUSEUM AND GALLERY Andy Goldsworthy Photographs of his temporary structures. Mon-Sat

William Street (01227-367368) LONDON DESIGN MUSEUM Mini: 40 Years of a Design Icon Mini's designed by celebrities mark the 40th anniversary of the vehicle. Ends 9 May. Modern Britain 1927-1939 In-

cludes work by Francis Bacon, Paul

Nash and Barbara Hepworth.

Mon-Sun 11.30am-6pm, ends 18 Jul. £5.25, concs £4. Shad Thames SE1 (0171-378 6055) @ Tower Hill. NATIONAL GALLERY Portraits by Ingres Paintings and drawings by the 19th-century French artist. Mon. Tue. Thur-Sun 10am-6pm. Wed. 10am-10pm, ends 25 Apr. £6, concs £4. Wed £4 7pm-10pm.

Orazio Gentileschi at the Court of Charles I Work by the 17th-century Italian. Mon. Tue. Thur-Sun 10am-6pm. Wed 10am-9pm, ends 23 May, free. Rogier Van Der Weyden in the National Gallery Paintings by the 15th-century Dutch master. Mon. Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-9pm. ends 4 Jul. free. Trafalgar Square WC2 (0171-747 2885) & Charing Cross.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Monet in the 20th Century Paintmonths in the 26th years after 1900.

Mon-Thur 9am-6pm, Fri 9am-11pm.

Sat 8am-11pm. Sun 8am-6pm. ends

18 Apr. 59, cons. 66, child (12-18)

£3, child (8-11) £1.50.

Kandinsky - Watercolours and Other Works on Paper Works spanning the career of the abstract artist. Mon-Thur, Sat & Sun 10am-6pm. Fri 10am-8.30pm. ends 4 Jul. £6. concs £4.80, NUS £4, child (12-18) £2.50, child (8-11) £1.50. Burlington House, Piccadilly W1 (0171-300 

TATE GALLERY Works on Paper and Paintings: Francis Bacon Previously unknown works. Ends 2 May, free. Pharmacy: Damien Hirst Medicinal installation, Ends 2 May, free. lackson Pollock Major retrospective of Abstract Expressionist works, Ends 6 Jun. E7.50, concs E5, family £19 (Firstcall 0870-842 2233 £1.60 blig feet Turner's Last Papers 1820-51

Examining the paper Turner used for his later work. Ends 13 Jun, free. Dangerous Llaisons: Barbara Hep-worth and Ben Nicholson Examining the artists' cross fertilisation of irleas. Ends 11 Jul, free. Dangerous Liaisons: Rodin and Gwen John Explores the relationship etween the artists. Mon-Sun 10am

5.50pm, ends 11 Jul, free. Millbank

SW1 (017)-887 8000) O Pimlico.

SOUTHAMPTON CITY ART GALLERY Twenty Great Dutch Paintings including work by Hobbema, Rembrandt and Vermeer Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1pm-4pm, ends 13 Jun, Free. (01703-832151)

TATE GALLERY Images of Portmeor Beach: Lubaina Himid Work by the

ident artist, Mon-Sat 11am-7pm

Sun 11am-5pm, ends 18 Apr. £3.50. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226) SWANSEA GLYNN VIVIAN ART GALLERY Eighteenth Century Derby Porce-lain Finc ceramics. Ends 25 Apr. free. Syzygy: Alan Rogers and Philip Mead Contrasting visions. Tue-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 9 May, free. Alexandra Road (01792-651738)

# **CLASSICAL**

BLACKHEATH HALLS Soloists of the Royal Opera House Beethoven's Septet and Schubert's Octal Tonight 8pm, £12.50, concs £10, Lee Road, SE3 (0181-463 0100) BR: Blackheath.

ST JAMES'S CHURCH Tirana String Cuartet UK debut by the Albanian quartet. Tonight 7.30pm. £10, concs £5. Piccadilly. W1 (0171-381 0441)

ST JOHN'S, SMITH SQUARE Jupiter Orchestra/Rose Dvorak's Violin Con-certo and other Czech works. Tonight ROYAL ALBERT HALL Royal Phil-

ROYAL ALBERT HALL ROYAL Filth harmonic/Gatti Mahler's Ruckert Lieder and 6th Symphony. Tonight 7.30pm. 55-£32. Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212) ⊕ High **POOLE** WESSEX HALL, POOLE ARTS CEN-TRE Bournemouth Symphony Or-chestra/Litton Elgar's Violin

Concerto with Walton's 1st Sympho

ny. Tonight 7.30pm. £9-£30. King-land Road (01202-685222)

# **OPERA**

LONDON WILTON'S MUSIC HALL The Silver Lake Staging of Kurt Weill by Broomhill Opera conducted by Charles Hezlewood. Tonight 7.30pm. £15 & £20. Grace's Alley, E1 (0171-

# LITERATURE

BRIGHTON The Brighton Rock Creread; bring along your own work to share or just come along to listen. Caxton Arms Tonight 8.30pm, free. North Gardens (012/3-207/62)

LONDON Express Excess An evening of performance poetry with Hannah K Andrews, Dickon Savage, Lloyd Lindsay and Mark Kelly. The Enterprise Tonight 9pm. £4, 

### DANCE

LONDON LABAN CENTRE Wendy Hous toun: Happy Hour Fifty minutes of intoxicating monologues and bar stool philosophy. Tonight 7.30pm, phone for prices, ends 15 Apr. Lau-rle Grove, SE14 (0181-692 4070)

PLACE THEATRE Matthew Hawkins: Dances from the New Territories Islamic and Western dance meet. Tonight 8pm. £10. Duke's Road, WC? (0171-387 0031) BR/⊕ Euston.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE Arc Dance Company presents The Return of Don Juan Dramatic comedy with Royal Ballet star, Irek Mukhamedov day 2.30pm & 7.30pm, £7.50-£14.50. The Broadway, SW19 (0181-540 0362) 
Wimbledon,

# **COMEDY**

MEL AND SUE AT CORN EX-CHANGE, BEDFORD Mel Giedroyc and Sue Perkins offer their frolicsome humour Tonight 8pm. £10.50-£12.50. St Paul's Square (01234-269519)

LONDON

STORE With Neil Mullarkey. Richard Steve Frost. Tonight 8pm. £11, NUS £7 Oxendon Street. SW1 (0171-344 0234) O Piccadilly Circus. OXFORD SWANGLEURS NATIONAL TOUR

THE COMEDY STORE AT COMEDY

AT JONGLEURS OXFORD With aul Tonkinson, Terry Alderton, Marcus Brigstocke and Keith Fields. Tonight 7pm. £5. Hythe Bridge Street (0845-608 1818) BILL BAILEY AT WEDGEWOOD

ROOMS The hippie chic comic with

a mastery of the musical comedy

form. Tonight 8pm. £7.50. Albert

# **CLUBS**

BRIGHTON
BULLIT AT HONEY CLUB Big beat. funk and more. Tonight 10pm-2.30am. £3. King's Road Arches (01273-202807)

CAMBRIDGE THE GOODLY WEDNESDAY AT THE FEZ CLUB Respected garage session with Ministry's Gareth Cooke. Tonight 8pm-2am. £5, £3 before 11pm, Market Passage (01223-519 224)

SPACE AT BAR RUMBA Chicago's Cajmere plays tech-disco. Tonight 10pm-3am £5, NUS/before 11pm £3. iaftesbury Avenue (0171-287 2715)

# **EVENTS**

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REVAINENVA FAVIRONMENTAL FUN DAY Green family fun day with walks, pond dips, games and quiz-trails. Bryngarw Country Park To-day 11am-3pm, free (01656-729009) GUILDFORD Bodger and Badger - Mad Mash Three The popular pair - Mad Wash I heet the format pair are joined by Mousey for another messy adventure for ages 4-10, Civic Hall Today 2pm, E5. London Road (01483-444555)

# **MUSIC**

ULTRASOUND Indie-rock from the debut album, Everything Picture. Fleece & Firkin Tonight 8.30pm, phone for prices. St Thomas Street (0117-927 7150)

CHELTENHAM THE HOLLIES Veteran pop of the 1960s and 1970s. Town Hall Tonight 7.30pm. £7.50-£17. Imperial Square (01242-227979)

SOLID SILVER SIXTIES SHOW Nostalgia with Peter Noone, Freddie & The Dreamers, Rilly J Kramer and Brian Poole, Leas Cliff Hall Tonight 8pm. £12.50-£16.50. The Leas LONDON

FOLKESTONE

Dingwalls Tonight 8pm. £6.50. Camden Lock, Chalk Farm Road NW1 (0171-267 1577) → Camden Town. URBAN SPECIES Acoustic grooves

ROSITA New band for former-Kenickie members Marie Du Santi-

ago and Emmy-Kate Montrose.

with a trip-hop edge. Jazz Café. Tonight 8.30pm. £12. Parkway, NW1 (0171-916 6060) ← Camden Town. NEWPORT PITCHSHIFTER, JANUS STARK, SOUNDISCIPLES Punkish drum'n'bass from the album winw. pitchshifter.com. TJ's Tonight 9pm, phone for prices. Clarence Piace

PLYMOUTH The Pavilion Tonight 8pm. £17.50. Armada Way (01752-229922)

PORTSMOUTH LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO. ALVIN YOUNGBLOOD HART The semble. The Guildhall Tonight 7pm. £20-£22,50. Gulidhali Square (Ó1705-824355)

WEYMOUTH ERROL BROWN The ex-Hot Chocolate star remains Still Sexy. Weymouth Pavillon Tonight Som (01305-783225)

### **MUSIC** JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

CARDIGAN MARTIN HAYES AND DENNIS CAHILL The virtuoso Irish folk duo.
Theatr Mwidan Tonight 8pm. (01239-621200)

MADDY PRIOR AND FRIENDS The Ravenchild album tour. Woodville Halls Tonight 8pm. £8-£9.

GRAVESEND

MIKE DANIELS DELTA JAZZMEN 100 Club Dixie-style jazz. Tonight 8pm. E7. concs £6. Oxford Street, W1 (0171-636 0933) ↔ Oxford Circus. PHIL DAY, DAVE CLIFF Tenor and guitar-led modern jazz. 606 Club Tonight 9.30pm & 12mIdnight. £5. Lots Road. SW10 (0171-352 5953)

⊕ Fulham Broadway/Earl's Court. NITIN SAWHNEY The Indo-jazz guitar virtuoso. Jazz Café. Tonight ım. £12, £10 in adıv. Parkway, NW1 (0171-916 6060) ⊕ Camden Town. KENNY GARRETT QUARTET

Club. Mon-Sun 9pm. ends 18 Apr. £15. Dean Street, WI (0171-439 8722) O Tottenham Court Road. SALENA JONES Bluesy US cabaret siren with pianist Paul Sawtell and saxist Iain Dixon. Pizza on the Park Mon-Sat 9 15pm & 11.15pm, ends 24 Apr. £18. £16 in adv. Knightsbridge, SW1 (0171-235

Straight ahead bebop and electric fu-

sion experience. Pizza Express Jazz

5273) Hyde Park Corner. JOE LOVANO TRIO The progressive US saxophonist with powerful sense of form, Ronnie Scott's . Mon-Sat 9pm & 11.30pm, ends 17 Apr. £15, mems £4. Frith Street, W1 

EVAN PARKER/KENNY WHEELER Composer and trumpeter Wheeler leads his quintet, featuring elemental saxophonist Parker. Vortex Tonight 9pm. £12. Stoke Newington Church Street, N16 (0171-254 6516) BR: Stoke Newington,

Last Chance to book

(0171-863 8000) ends Sat

CLOUD GATE (below), Taiwan's foremost

modern dance company, make their British

debut with Songs of the Wanderers, which

includes elements of t'ai chi and meditation.

Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Ave, London EC1

**ા** 

LATIN RHYTHMS Sambas from sax

star Fiona Mitchell. Norwich Arts Centre Tonight 8pm. £4, concs £3.50. Reeves Yard, St Benedict's Street (01603-660352)

NORWICH

# BUSINESS

# BRIEFING

### Roaring start for ISAs at Halifax

HALIFAY, the mortgage bank, yesterday reported that more than a quarter of a million people had taken out Individual Savings Accounts since their launch just a week ago. More than 100,000 customers had opened new cash ISAs during the week. A further 150,000 rolled over their PEP accounts into ISAs designed for stocks and shares.

#### Scapa to return £120m to investors



SCAPA, the Blackburnbased group, intends to return £120m, or about 50p a share, to shareholders after selling its papermaking products division to Voith of Germany for £329m yesterday.

Last year the businesses sold made operating profits of £45m on sales of £263m, roughly half the entire company's business, but the market is increasingly

competitive. Scapa, headed by chief executive David Dunn (pictured), will focus on its technical tapes and fastenings business, where margins have been lower but prospects are brighter. It made an operating profit of £10.1m on turnover of £92m in the six months to last September: The shares leapt 27p to 144p.

#### Johnston raises Portsmouth stake

JOHNSTON PRESS, the regional newspaper publisher. yesterday snapped up another 2.36 per cent of Portsmouth & Sunderland, taking its shareholding in the publishing and convenience store group to 17.35 per cent. Johnston paid 1,750p each for the shares, compared to the price of 1,600p it paid in January when it took a 14.99 per cent

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is investigating whether to allow Johnston, and its rivals Newsquest and News Communications & Media, to mount a full takeover bid for P&S. However, P&S last night retorted that 1,750p undervalues the company and advised

| STOCK MARKETS |           |        |  |  |  |  |
|---------------|-----------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| FTSE 100      | DOW JONES | NIKKEL |  |  |  |  |
| G550          | 10600     | 7000   |  |  |  |  |
| 6500          | 10-00     | 15800  |  |  |  |  |
| 6-50          | 10200     | 16600  |  |  |  |  |
| 6-00          | 10000     | 16400  |  |  |  |  |
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| INDICES          |          |          |          |             |             |         |  |  |
| Index            | Close    | Change C | pasta(X) | 52 mk kigb  | 52 wk fow Y | teld(%) |  |  |
| FTSE 100         | 6513.10  | 71.90    | 1.12     | 6512.10     | 4599.20     | 2.40    |  |  |
| TSE 250          | 5592 40  | 33.50    | 0.60     | 5970.90     | 4247.60     | 3.13    |  |  |
| FTSE 350         | 3088.60  | 31.80    | 1.04     | 3084 40     | 2210.40     | 2.51    |  |  |
| FTSE All Share   | 2986.26  | 29.90    | 1.01     | 2982 22     | 2143.53     | 2.55    |  |  |
| FTSE SmallCap    | 2428 60  | 10 70    | 0.44     | 2793.80     | 1834.40     | 3.49    |  |  |
| FTSE Fledgling   | 1319.30  | 1.80     | 0 14     | 1517.10     | 1046.20     | 3.87    |  |  |
| FTSE AIM         | 389.80   | B.40     | 0.95     | 1146.90     | 761.30      | 1.14    |  |  |
| FTSE Eurotop 100 | 3035.38  | 39.04    | 1,30     | 3079,27     | 2018.15     | 1.91    |  |  |
| FTSE Eurotop 300 | 1306 15  | 16,52    | 1 26     | 1332.07     | 880.63      | 1.84    |  |  |
| Dow Jones        | 10346,44 | 13.59    | 0.13     | 10340.62    | 7400.30     | 1.53    |  |  |
| Nikkei           | 16715.16 | 207.76   | 1.26_    | 17166.06    | 12787.90    | 0.76    |  |  |
| Hang Seng        | 11899.69 | 154.95   | 1.32     | 11919.83    | 6544.79     | 2.98    |  |  |
| Dax              | 5199 18  | 40.02    | 0.78     | 6217.83     | 3833.71     | 1.57    |  |  |
| S&P 500          | 1348 43  | -10 79   | -0.79    | 1358.69     | 923.32      | 1.19    |  |  |
| Nasdaq           | 2582.94  | -19.90   | -0.77    | 2606.24     | 1357.09     | 0.28    |  |  |
| Toronto 300      | 6933 50  | 11.32    | 0.16     | 7837.70     | 5320.90     | 1.51    |  |  |
| Brazil Bovespa   | 11214.04 | -195 61  | -1.72    | 12339.14    | 4375.69     | 3,14    |  |  |
| Belgium Bel20    | 3327.75  | 4,16     | 0.13     | 3713 21     | 2696.26     | 1.98    |  |  |
| Amsterdam Exch   | 540 99   | 4 82     | 0.90     | 600.65      | 366 58      | 1.85    |  |  |
| France CAC 40    | 4367,41  | 12.41    | 0.29     | 4416.00     | 2881.21     | 1.66    |  |  |
| Milan MIB30      | 36995.00 | 288.00   | 0.79     | 39170 00    | 24175 00    | 1.04    |  |  |
| Madrid Ibes 35   | 1012080  | 81.60    | 0.81     | 1098980     | 6869.90     | 1.66    |  |  |
| Insh Overali     | 5437.91  | 86.22    | 1.61     | 5581.70     | 3732.57     | 1.52    |  |  |
| S Korea Comp     | 689,80   | 0.16     | 0.02     | 700.44      | 277.37      | 1.00    |  |  |
| Australia ASX    | 3076 30  | 38.10    | 1.25     | 3073.50     | 2386,70     | 3.02    |  |  |
|                  |          |          |          |             |             |         |  |  |

| INTEREST RATES |                 |               |  |  |  |  |  |
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| SHORT STERLING | UK 10 YEAR GILT | US LONG BOND  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| MONEY MARKET RATES BOND YIELDS |         |        |        |            |         |          |               |            |
| Index                          | 3 month | Yr chg | 1 Year | Yr che     | 10 year | Yr chg   | Long bond     | Yr chg     |
| UK                             | 5.32    | -2.23  | 5 32   | -2.22      | 4.43    | -1,32    | 4 43          | -1.24      |
| US                             | 5.00    | -0.66  | 15.2   | -0.57      | 5 10    | 0.55     | 5.48          | 0 44       |
| lapan                          | 0.16    | -0.52  | 0.23   | -0 47      | 1 60    | -0 26    | 2.35          | -0.14      |
| Germany                        | 2.65    | -0 98  | 2 72   | -1 20      | 3 83    | -1.02    | 4.BD          | -0.60      |

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| OTHER INDICATORS |          |      |        |            |        |      |        |          |
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| Gold (\$)        | 283.55   | 0.80 | 311 15 | RPI        | 163 70 | 2.10 | 160.33 | Mar      |
|                  |          |      |        |            | Pares  |      |        |          |

#### SOURCE: BLOOMBERG www.bloomberg.com/uk

|   | T                    | DURIS  | TRATES                    |                |
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|   |                      |        |                           |                |
| 1 | Austraha (\$)        | 2.4544 | Mexican (nuevo peso)      | 13.9           |
|   | Austria (schillings) | 19.92  | Netherlands (guiders)     | 3.192          |
|   | Belgium (francs)     | 58.57  | New Zealand (S)           | 2.862          |
|   | Canada (\$)          | 2.3465 | Norway (kroner)           | 12.2           |
| i | Cyprus (pounds)      | 0.8368 | Portugal (escudos)        | 28 <u>9.</u> 2 |
| ı | Denmark (kroner)     | 10.85  | Saudi Arabia (rials)      | 5.881          |
| i | Finland (markka)     | 8.6453 | Singapore (S)             | 2.631          |
| Į | France (francs)      | 9,5069 | South Africa (rands)      | 9.570          |
|   | Germany (marks)      | 2.8444 | Spain (pesetas)           | 240.6          |
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| l | reland (punts)       | 62,00  | Turkey (lirasi)           | 58806          |
|   | Indian (rupees)      | 6.0100 | USA (\$)                  | 1.577          |
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# RBS poised to renew offer of merger with Barclays

ROYAL BANK of Scotland was By Andrew GARFIELD last night standing by to renew its offer of an agreed merger deal with Barclays Bank, the high street financial giant which has been left rudderless by the shock decision yesterday of its new chief executive Mike O'Neill to retire on health grounds on his first day in the

The Scottish bank had agreed to meet senior Barclavs executives to discuss a February, only for the meeting to be cancelled at the last minute after Mr O'Neill had agreed to join the group.

The RBS chief executive, Sir George Mathewson, is now Financial Editor

overtures in the light of yes-

terday's developments. The prospect of a bank mega-merger helped drive the FTSE 100 up more than 70 points to a record high of

RBS and Barclays - which have both risen by 40 per cent so far this year - rose sharply again yesterday, putting on 62p to £14.25 and 46p to £19.99 respectively as merger speculation took hold. RBS is believed to have iden-

tified potential cost savings of £200m from a merger with Barclays, in addition to the beneunderstood to be planning fresh fits it would bring to the bank run up to the first Scottish

bank has a tried and respected senior management team headed by Sir George and Fred Goodwin, the deputy chief ex-ecutive who joined RBS last year from National Australia

One investment banker said yesterday: "Mathewson and Fred Goodwin, his deputy, are

Because of the disparity in size, the deal would have to be structured as a reverse takeover by RBS of Barclays. with Edinburgh being given at least a symbolic role as group headquarters in order to pacify Scottish public comings in the

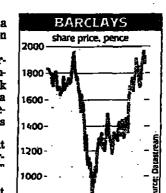
by providing an instant solution assembly elections. RBS has a to its leadership crisis. The market capitalisation of £12bn against £20bn for Barclays. Sir Peter Middleton, Bar-

clays' acting chief executive, insisted yesterday that the bank would not be panicked into a merger, but neither would it reject reasonable propositions

we can push the business forward with the divisional heads," he said.

The bank was confident that having done much of the spadework already, the headhunters Spencer Stuart would be able to come up with alternative candidates within a reasonable

timeframe.



ers warned that given the current merger frenzy in Europe and the growing likelihood of Britain joining the euro zone be-

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fore long, institutional investors bitten by the merger bug may not have the patience to sit tight and wait for the search for a new chief executive to bear

One financier said last night: "They have seen what has happened to bank share prices abroad where mergers have taken place. We have been waiting over a year for a merger in the UK banking sector and nothing has happened. Earnings are steady but not spectacular, business is flat; the market is looking for something else to take the FTSE on. This might be the gap everyone has been looking for."

Outlook, page 17

Terry Leahy, Tesco chief executive, at its store in Brent Cross, London, yesterday

Keith Dobney

# Tesco expands home shopping

home shopping service in stores across the country over the next few months, as the supermarket group attempts to cash in on the success of its free Internet service.

Tesco will offer the service, which allows customers to order their shopping online and have it delivered to their homes for a £5 fee, from 100 of its stores, enabling it to reach most of the country.

The move comes after a two-vear trial of the service involving 11 stores, during which Tesco experimented with allowing customers to order by phone and fax. However, it has

TESCO IS planning to roll out its BY PETER THAL LARSEN

down if customers only order via the Internet.

"Clearly customers want the service," said Andrew Higginson. Tesco's finance director. "But you have to be red-hot on accuracy and quality if it's going to work." Tesco expects the service to

expand its customer base by tempting shoppers who cannot travel or who live too far away from a supermarket. The offer is also likely to ap-

peal to users of Tesco's free Internet service, which was launched earlier this year. More than 200,000 people use Tesco concluded that costs will be kept as their Internet provider, with

a further 10,000 joining each

Tesco said the home shopping service would create an extra 1.500 jobs in the UK as part of a total of 10,000 that Tesco expects to create this year by extending existing stores and opening new ones. The company is also adding another 10,000 jobs to its opera-

Thailand and South Korea. The move came as Tesco shook off the gloom in the supermarket sector to report a 7.8 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £881m for the year to the end of February.

tions in central Europe,

The rise was achieved despite last year's price-cutting mission.

campaign, which would have reduced profits by £40m. This was followed in February by another round of price cuts that will cost Tesco £60m on an an-

nualised basis. Tesco said like-for-like sales growth of 4 per cent was due to a 2.5 per cent increase in sales volumes and a 1.5 per cent rise in prices, the result of higher taxes on tobacco and petrol.

Terry Leahey. Tesco's chief executive, said 1998 was a "challenging" year for the in-dustry despite the recent conclusion by John Bridgeman, the director general of the OFT, to refer the supermarket industry to the Competition Com-

# slashes its call rates

ONE2ONE, the mobile phone network currently up for sale. yesterday tried to claw back some of the ground it has lost to its rivals in the competitive mobile phone market by slashing its call rates.

From the end of April, One2One will charge just 10p a minute for daytime calls and 2p a minute for evening and weekend calls. The tariffs, which apply regardless of whether calls are local or national, mean that at some points of the day using One2One will be cheaper than using a British Telecom fixed-line phone.

managing director, said the a telecoms analyst at Comsimplicity of the new tariffs merzbank. "But it certainly would appeal to customers, who often complained that

confusing.

He added that the tariffs would also encourage people to give up their fixed-line phones. We connect 110 million calls a week and have ample opportunity for more." he said. "The average household uses their BT line for 700 minutes a month. I want some of that."

Ope2One is the smallest of the UK's four mobile phone operators with a 15 per cent share of the market. In recent months the network has lost ground as Cellnet and Vodafone signed up millions of new customers with their popular "pay-

as-vou-go" services. Mr Samples said the new rates would also be made available to users of One2One's own pay-as-you-go service, Up2You. who currently pay 40p a minute for calls. However in order to take advantage of the rates, BY PETER THAL LARSEN

users will also have to pay a tariff of at least 50p a day.

Mr Samples justified the

change by arguing that it was important to encourage customers to use their phones. "This is not just about seeing who can connect the most customers," he said.

Industry analysts yesterday played down suggestions that the mobile phone market was about to be plunged into a price war. "One2One had been losing market share and this allows them to take the initiative." Tim Samples, One2One said Justinian Clifford-Bowles, isn't a revolution."

Other operators were also work quality was just as important to new customers One2One has to be careful that people don't end up thinking they are cheap for a reason

A recent survey by Oftel, the telecoms watchdog, identified One2One as one of the least reliable networks, although the company claims its own surveys put it ahead of its rivals in terms of reliability

Mr Samples said he expected average revenues per customer to remain stable as users increase usage in response to the tariff cuts. Contract customers now spend £480 a year. while pre-pay customers spend more than £200.

Analysts value the company, expected to report earnings before interest, tax, decreciation and amortisation of £100m this year, at £7bn to £11bn.

# Laporte's £1.5bn deal founders on Hoechst veto

LAPORTE, the UK fine chemicals group, was yesterday forced to scrap plans for a £1.5bn takeover by the chemical giant Clariant after strong opposition from Hoechst, the Swiss group's largest shareholder.

The British group baffled the City when it said that talks with a potential bidder had ended, less than 24 hours after admit-

By Francesco Guerrera

shares crashing 12.5 per cent to Sources close to the deal said

the embarrassing U-turn was prompted by Hoechst's lastminute opposition. The German chemicals and pharmaceutical group, which holds 45 per cent of Clariant, is believed to have ting it was discussing an offer. vetoed the deal at a meeting with The collapse sent Laporte the two companies on Monday

was concerned that a Clariant-Laporte deal might jeopardise its own merger with Rhone-Poulenc of France. Hoechst needs to seil its chemical businesses, including its stake in Clariant, before merging with Rhone-Poulenc, and was worried

that corporate action by Clariant

might delay the process. Industry sources said

night. The German company tated at the prospect of financ-ment, personalities, strategy, means they are now up for sale." Clariant was likely to add to its \$1.9bn (£1.2bn) debt to fund the "It was a done deal, they

went for agreement from Hoechst and they were refused." one insider said. Another source said the deal cleared all relevant hurdles before foundering on UK company. Laporte is in Roechst's concerns. This is play now. The fact that they Hoechst could also have hesi- not about price, nor manage- were willing to agree a takeover

ing part of the Laporte deal as due diligence or competition

Analysts said the collapse of the takeover was a huge embarrassment both for Clariant and Laporte's chief executive, Jim Leng. They said the demise of the deal would prompt other chemicals groups to bid for the

group PPG and some European players, including Viag and Degussa-Hels of Germany could enter the fray.

This is the second setback in four months for Clariant's expansion plans. Last year the group dropped plans for a \$8.1bn

## AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

# LONDON

FOOTSIE POUNDED to yet another peak. The index ended just below its day's best up 71.9 points to 6,513.1 - its first close above 6,500. Supporting indices were also strong. Turnover again topped 1.1 billion shares. Tesco, on results, led the Footsie leader board with a 9.75p gain to 169.25p, with Amvescap, the US fund manager, not - in percentage terms - far behind with a 38p gain to 670.5p. Barclays, on the brief reign of chief executive Michael O'Neill, rose 46p

Derek Pain, page 19

### NEW YORK

US STOCKS were treading water at midday, paring gains amid jitters over Intel earnings - due out after the market closed - and the Kosovo crisis. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was off 2 points, or 0.02 per cent. at 10,342, having been as much as 79 points higher earlier in the day. Technology stocks bore the

brunt of the jitters over the

computer chip manufacturer

Intel, and the Nasdaq was down

announcement from the

18 points at 2,581.

# ⊕ TOKYO

TOKYO STOCKS finished the day modestly higher, with Monday's rise on Wall Street tempering fears of a sharp correction in stock But investors remained wary

ahead of an earnings announcement from the US computer chip giant Intel, made after the New York stock market closed last night. The Nikkei index closed up

207.76 points - or 1.26 per cent - at 16,715.16, while Nikkei futures closed up 180 at 16,740.

### HONG KONG

**WALL STREET'S record Monday** close pushed Hong Kong stocks to their highest levels in almost 18 months. The Hang Seng index closed 154.95 points higher at 11.899.69, having earlier hit an intra-day high of 11,956.43.

Howard Gorges, a director at South China Brokerage, said: "The blue-chips are doing well and there is interest in secondline counters and companies announcing corporate news."

Dealers said further gains were likely to be capped at 12,000.

## PARIS

THE PARIS bourse set its second consecutive closing record for 1999, despite fears that the conflict in the Balkans will escalate.

The Cac-40 hit an intra-day high of 4,410.27, but tumbled by almost 100 points following reports that Serb troops had crossed into Albania. The index eventually

closed up 0.28 per cent at 4,367,41. One dealer said: "We saw a knee-jerk reaction to the news of the Serbs in Albania, and from now on the action there will bring increasing pressure on sentiment."

7-30<u>-</u> 2001. - 1 --

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wildlife documentaries. Among wildlife documentaries. Among I the din about fake TV arlier this year, you might ave picked out a few voices rotesting that wildlife filming ses trick photography and dilting as a matter of course. Cen't see how this was relevant to the debate: it's the fact that umans are so very willing to erform for the camera that nakes for a moral problem. It's he fact that animals aren't that

I don't, on the whole, mind the greative ediling necessary. I don't, on the whole, mind the fact of fakery in widdlife films. But Supernatural (BBC1) kes things too far. In its tempts to show life through the things to show life through the special effects to an unprecent degree — computer enerated birds flap across deced landscapes, moons whize the street of the

between a couple of Lycra-clad cyclists and a rattler.
All this is supposed to make the strangeness of an animal's world more vivid. But none of it is half as forceful as the philosopher Daniel Dennett's attempt to convey how a dog sees thin bird flying overhead may c across as nothing more defulian the sky going all "bird for a white. If Supernatural of he became a gentlema help him out in the for tells him it wouldn't Pip tells his dying the Magwitch that he regans his father and loves Pip declares his suit Of course, the adapt ut some important stuff, at back in: Pip, conscious of ingralitude to Joe Gargery s

But the other changes I mention altered and blunted the morals and emotions behind the story. Classics are usually classics for a reason; you need a good reason to mess around with them. So, finally, this version left me unhappy. Not surprising, really: in the nature of things, great expectations tend to finish in great disappointments.

BBC1

**O Business Breakfast** (14998). **7.00** News (T) (43337). **9.00** Kliroy (S) (T) (9992462). **9.45** Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (385733). **10.15** The Vanessa Show (S) (T) (4699266). **11.00** News; Regional News; Weather (T) (5853066). **11.05** City Hospital (S) (T) (9063795). **11.35** News; Regional News; Weather (T) (8340656). **12.00** Going for a Song (S) (8100895). **12.25** Wipeout (S) (1883630). **12.50** The Weather Show (S) (T) (78821627). **1.00** News; Weather (T) (48424). **1.30** Regional News and Weather (5899172). **1.40** Neighbours (S) (T) (16159269). **2.05** Ironside (R) (1047627). **2.55** Through the Keyhole (S) (T) (2006862).

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (R) (S) (8443066).
3.48 Starhill Ponies (S) (4086578). 3.50 Hububb (R) (S) (7974578). 4.10 The Adventures of Shirley Holmes (R) (S) (7208286). 4.35 The Demon Headmester (R) (S) (7431511). 5.00 Newsround (S) (T) (5470608). 5.10 Blue Peter (S) (T) (2231207).

8.00 Changing Rooms. Two neighbouring sisters and their husbands create a "Tuscan bistro feel" and a New England living room in each other's houses (R) (S) (T) (4998).

9.00 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (570608). 8.50 National Lottery - Greatost Hits (S) (419801).

BILLY Under Slege 2: Dark Territory (Geoff Murphy 1995 US). Die Hard clone starring charmless action beefcake Steven Seagal as the ex-Navy SEAL and gourmet chef Casey Ryback. This time he decides to take a holiday in the Rockles when, by a strange coincidence, the train he boards happens to be the command centre for terrorists planning to hold the world to ransom with a stolen killer satellite. With Eric Bogoslan as the chief baddle and Katherine Helgi as Seagal's little lady (S) (9229527).

11.05 Film 99 with Jonathan Ross. Jonno reviews An Ideal Husband, with Cate Blanchett, and Aeturn to Peradise. Or, in Woss-speak, Weiturn to Pervadise (849086).

11.40 IIIM Marathon Man (John Schlesinger 1976 US). Schlesinger was the wrong man to deliver the visceral thrills of William Goldman's book about a New York Jewish student (Dustin Hoffman) who becomes the target of an evil old Nazi. Laurence Olivier and the dentistry scene make it memorable, however (543337).

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

COOKERY SHOW O

F THE DAY

THE UNSEEN ROYALS (8pm ITV) Anyone hoping to catch a glimpse of Princess Marguret in the bath, or the Queen picking her nose, should be warned: this is just not that kind of programme. Simon Kerfoot's documentary is monarchical PR of the familiar sort with "ordinary" people sharing their memories of their close encounters with the royals. Princess Diana (right) was so much more beautiful in the flesh, Charles more down-to-earth, etc. etc. The only note of sulversion is Kerfoot's use of music – the theme tune

(14998), **7.00** News (T) (43337), 1482), **9.45** Can't Cook, Won't Rez), **9.45** Can't Cook, Won't Rez), **10** Vanessa Show (S) (T) legional News; Weather (T) spital (S) (T) (9063795), **11.55** eather (T) (6340656), **12.00** 

Neighbours. Karl learns a lesson about life on the streets. Yup, those mean streets of Erinsborough (S) (T) (259240).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (801).

6.30 Regional News. And weather (T) (153).

7.00 Hollday on a Shoestring. Reports on self-catering in Barbados, a family holiday in Majorca and a log cabin near Ullswater (S) (T) (8578).

7.30 Tomorrow's World. Peter Snow is in New Zealand this week, where he discovers an unusual technique for extracting gold from the ground using plants (S) (T) (337).

8.30 Battersea Dogs' Home. Llonel Biair introduces his former Battersea dogs, Florence and Jenny (S) (524172)

tt.20 The Battle for Congress. Concluding part of Ann Parisio's fly-on-the-wall look at the 1998 Congressional election race in California (S) (T) (699563).

12.00 Despetch Box (31414), 12.30 Open University: The Chemistry of Survival (55825). 1.00 The Chemistry of Power (15844). 1.30 The Chemistry of Life and Death (52863). 2.00 Exam Revision: GCSE Bitesize Revision: History 1 (20486). 4.00 Languages: Deutsch Plus 5 - 8 (68060). 5.00 Business and Training: So You Want to Work in Social Care? (81399). To 5.30am.

BBC2

7.30 Children's BBC: The Silver Brumby (R) (S) (9864578).
7.35 Top Cat (R) (8296714). 7.55 The Bots Master (R) (S) (8290530). 8.20 Help! It's the Hair Bear Bunch (R) (8905801). 8.40 Trading Places – French Exchange (R) (S) (9189207). 9.40 Goober and the Ghost Chasers (R) (S) (7980608). 9.35 Student Bodles (R) (S) (8638240).
10.00 Teletubbles (R) (S) (30376).

10.30 [1][M] Babes in Toyland (Jack Donohue 1961 US).
Disney version of Victor Herbert's operetta, personally supervised by Uncle Welt himself. With Ray Boiger, and Annette Funicello as Mary Contrary (20158714).

12.10 The Car's the Star (R) (S)
Working Lunch (54882), 1.00 E
1.10 The Leisure Hour (R) (S) ( 40 The Car's the Star (R) (S) (7728424). 12.30 Working Lunch (54862). 1.00 Brum (R) (S) (38133849). 1.10 The Leisure Hour (R) (S) (1735153). 2.10 Sporting Greats (S) (89807801). 2.40 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (8218153). 2.45 Westminster (S) (T) (5802694). 3.56 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (7013269). 4.00 The Village (R) (S) (7023648). 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (S) (T) (7026733). 4.55 Esther (R) (S) (T) (8218443). 5.30 Whose House? (S) (530).

6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. "Time's Arrow" (part 2). Data and Guinan are now trapped in 19th-century San Francisco with a very strange Mark Twain (R) (S) (T) (188530).

6.45 Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Two science-club boffins use body perts to creete the "perfect girlfriend" for a teenager who has been brought back from the dead (S) (T) (506207).

7.30 Leviathan. Boxer Chris Eubank travels to Athens in search of the mythic and real origins of the marathon. And geneticist Steve Jones talks about the history of genetically modified foods (S) (207).

0.30 Home Front. New series of the home-design show in which Jocasta Innes makes over a London home with Ideas pinched from 1930s America (the nice bits, obviously. We're not talking Grapes of Wrath) (4375).

9.00 Three Fights, Two Weddings and a Funeral. Steve Coogan in the genius guise of his yobbish, student-hating Mancunian, Paul Calf, and sister Pauline, who's marrying her Greek boyfrlend (R) (S) (T) (501578).

9.35 Louis Theroux's Weird Weekends. Louis Theroux attempts to infiltrate the strange sub-culture of right-wing patriots and survivalists in the hills of Idaho in this repeat offering (Followed by Video Nation Shorts) (R) (S) (T) (842337).

10.35 Newsnight. Jeremy Paxman (T) (983375)

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**<u>INITION</u>** The Naked Chef. Twenty-three-year-old chef Jamie Oliver gives TV cookery a youthful bent. See Cookery Show of the Day, below (S) (T) (5240).

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8,00

9.00 **BIDINE Girls\* Night.** A bingo-winner and her cancer stricken sister-in-law go on the holiday of a lifetime. See Film of the Day, below (S) (T) (7172).

Evening News, Weather (T) (849).

[9]10]19 The Unseen Royals. "Never-before-seen toolage and photographs of the royal family". See Documentary of the Day, below (1) (4085).

11.00 ITV Nightly News; Weather (T) (902530) 11.20 London Tonight (T) (81849).

12.30 IZIM A Child Lost Forever (Claudia Well 1992 US).
Beverly D'Angelo investigates when the son she gave up for adoption 20 years previously dies suddenly (115554). 11.30 The Big Match. Highlights of the FA Cup semi-final replay between Manchester United and Arsenal (81795).

2:15 Hilling Geolbreak (Francis Searle 1961 UK), B-movie thriller with Peter Reynolds (8764738), To 3.25am.

# Carlton

.00 QMTV (2835172)

9.26 Trisha (S) (T) (3588443), 10.30 This Morning (T) (55574865), 12.20 Your Shout (9278424), 12.30 ITV Lunchtime News; Weather (T) (2689849), 12.55 London Today (T) (2657240), 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (4838356), 2.10 Lle Detector (T) (89801627), 2.40 Wheel of Fortune (S) (T) (2002066).

3.10 ITV News Headlines (T) (6748375).

Mind the Gap. Game show in which three contestants take a general knowledge tour of the capital using the London Underground map. It's due to last 30 minutes, but I should add an extra half-hour for safety (356).

**London Tonight.** Regional news update for the capital and the South-East (T) (269).

Emmerdale. Rechet demands answers from psycho boyfriend Graham, as Biff and Kathy go public (S) (T) (3646).

**Coronation Street.** Allson continues to cold-shoulder Kevin. Nick and Leanne continue to drift apart (S) (T) (733).

9.00

10.00 Sex and the City. Carrie is introduced to Mr Big's mother as his friend. Miranda breaks up with a Catholic guy because of his sexual hang-ups (5) (T) (22795).

12,45 12:10 Silverstone GT Racing (7302844).

3.20 Children's ITV: Malsy (5709646). 3.25 The Story Store (R) (S) (6727882). 3.40 Jumanji (R) (S) (T) (2426801). 4.05 Hey Arnold! (R) (T) (7007608). 4.35 Wildtrack (T) (7466207). 5.00 Lie Detector (T) (3882).

5.30

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7.00

**6.50 T4orce** (970882).

7.55

**ER.** A curious Greene discovers that Anspaugh never checked serial fantasist Amanda Lee's credentials. And an agoraphobic is coaxed out of her house for the first time (S) (T) (5191).

10.30 Eurotrash (S) (T) (31443).

11.30 The 11 O'Clock Show (T) (9424). 11.30 So Graham Norton (R) (374998).

Board Stupid (5672467), 1.50 Foolball Italia – Mazzanotte (22236660), 4.00 Transworld Sport (2779689), 4.55 Electric Avenue (42295370), 5.25 Alfie Atkins (9533979), 5.35 The Pink Panther Show (2749950), 5.55 Sesame Street (5808283). To 7am.

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THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW
The Independent 14 April 1999

**6.00 Sesame Street** (R) (71068). **7.00** The Big Breakfast (68375).

9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (T) (34530), 9.30 Sam and Max (78462), 10.00 Catdog (3825172), 10.20 Boy Meets World (3834820), 10.45 Moesha (369795), 11.15 The Bigger Breakfast (6381820), 11.30 Powerhouse (8172), 12.00 Sesame Street (R) (T) (21066), 12.30 Bewitched (89578), 1.00 Caroline in the City (62462), 1.30 The Three Stooges (16146785). 1.85

4.00 Channet 4 Racing. Flat racing from Newmarket (the 205, 2.35, 3:10 and 3.45pm races) and National Hunt racing from Chettenham (the 2.20, 2.55 and 3.30pm races) (69499820).

Fifteen to One (T) (462). 4.30 Countdown (T) (7465578). 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (9203511). Pet Rescue, "Some of the best animal stories from the first series of Pet Rescue" (R) (T) (998).

6.00 & News, Including First on Five. National and international news with Kirsty Young (S) (T) (6940917)

6.30 Femily Affairs. The police arrive at Peles flat and begin dusting for prints (S) (T) (5931289).

7.00 Knight Rider. The talkative car helps David Hasselhoff Investigate the theft of some government military equipment (A) (2950153).

5.20 5 News (S) (T) (59073849). 5.25 Russell Grant's Postoards (59065820). 5.30 100 Per Cent (6943004).

3.30 IIIM The Golden Gate Murders (Walter Grauman 1979 US). Murder mystery in which detective David Janssen teams up with nun Susanneh York to investigate the suspicious death of a priest, who had fallen/bash dropped off San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge (2716795).

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(R) (S) (T) (2653849), **7.30** Milkshakel (S) (2441207). **7.35** Muppet Bables (4865820), **8.00** Havakazoo (R)
(S) (8645153), **8.30** Dappledown Farm (8644424), **9.00**Hot Property (R) (S) (T) (4516849), **9.25** Russell Grant's Postcards (R) (3083917), **9.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (S) (6665801), **10.20** Sunset Beach (S) (T) (4056375), **11.10** Leeza (R) (S) (3713240), **12.00** 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (8648240), **12.30** Family Affairs (R) (S) (T) (1530199), **1.30** The Bold and the Beautiful (S) (T) (2645820), **1.30** The Roseanne Show (S) (6485040), **2.00** 100 Per Cent (S) (2956337), **2.30** Good Atternoon (8549207).

**Dawson's Creek.** Precoclous teenage Boston suburbanites. A homecoming dance brings Pacey and Andle together, but drives Dawson and Joey apart (T) (104578).

Channel 4 News; Weather (S) (T) (474269).

The A-Z of Scotland. Tonight's programme ranges from Scottish kitsch to oil rigs (381269).

8.00 **Brookside.** Lindsey has a plan. Enough said (5) (7) (7608).

8.00

My Titanic. Lorry driver Jeff Waghorn recalls the day in November 1996 when he nearly lost his life in the Channet Tunnel fire (S) (T) (9134820).

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7.30

Animai Marvets. How fish communicate in Finnish? Ho ho (S) (T) (6920153).

8.30 She's Gotta Nave It. Liza Tarbuck hits Newcastle with three local girls whose mission is to look good in this season's hottest colour. Yellow, apparently (T) (9443).

9.00

**Tailist Born Bad** (Jeff Yonis 1987 US). A gang of bored leenagers decide to rob a bank for kicks. As you do, it all goes horribly wrong, of course, and they are forced to take hostages, Justin Walker, Corey Feldman and James Remar star (S) (T) (23342172).

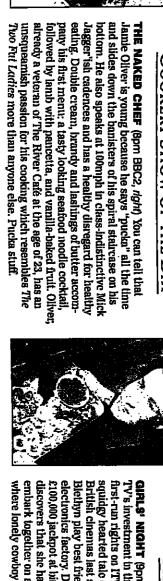
\$0.40 Not the Jack Docherty Show. Eighlies pop sensations Nick Kershaw and Howard Jones keep the lad company (4444511).

11.20 UK Raw. A dominatrix, and a man who wants to be a zebra (616375).

11.50 Live and Dangerous (35704284). 4.30 Live and Dangerous (continued) (7022478). 5.30 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (6730283). To 6am.

THEFVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT

Monday Tuesday



FILM OF THE DAY

GIRLS' NIGHT (9pm ITV. nght) The first fruit of Granada TV's investment in the big screen – giving them exclusive first-run rights on ITV – is Kay "Band of Gold" Mellor's squidgy hearted tale of bingo and cancer that passed through British cinemas last summer. Julie Walters and Brenda Blethyn play best friends and workers at a northern electronics factory. Dawn (played by Blethyn) wins the £100,000 jackpot at bingo at about the same time that she discovers that she has the big C. The friends decide to embark together on a holiday of a lifetime to Las Vegas, where lonely cowboy Kris Kristofferson is looking for lurve.





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